

HISTORICAL
ENCYCLOPEDIA
OF
ILLINOIS

EDITED BY

NEWTON BATEMAN, LL.D.

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AND HISTORY OF

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

EDITED BY

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GEORGE H. FRANZEN

Volume II

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PREFACE

When the writing and publication of this History of Livingston County was entered upon in 1907, I addressed a letter to my fellow citizens of the county in which I took occasion to state that—

"The writing of the history of Livingston County, at this time, is entered upon in the belief that it is needed, thirty years having passed since the preparation of the first and only meager history (long since out of print) of the county was undertaken. Livingston County has a history of which its people may justly be proud; and it is to be regretted that the preservation thereof could not have been undertaken while the chief actors were still living, so that its facts could have been learned from their own lips."

After outlining the work in hand, together with much research and correspondence, I found that my professional duties would make it impossible for me to complete the arduous undertaking within the limit of time desired by the publishers, and the very able services of Mr. George H. Franzen and Mr. Ford B. Johnson were enlisted in the accomplishment of this important work. The care, extended labors, civic pride and diligent research, which are so fully evidenced by their completed writings, entitle them to the appreciation of every citizen of Livingston County who entertains a just pride in its past history and in the preservation of this historic record for generations which will succeed us.

Christopher C. Shann



Ford B. Johnson.

PREFATORY STATEMENT

In presenting this History of Livingston County, we fully recognize the importance of the undertaking. To do this, after a lapse of nearly eighty years from the time the rude and simple red men retired from the scene and the incoming race commenced the task they have so well performed, is beset with difficulties that one inexperienced in this line of work cannot appreciate.

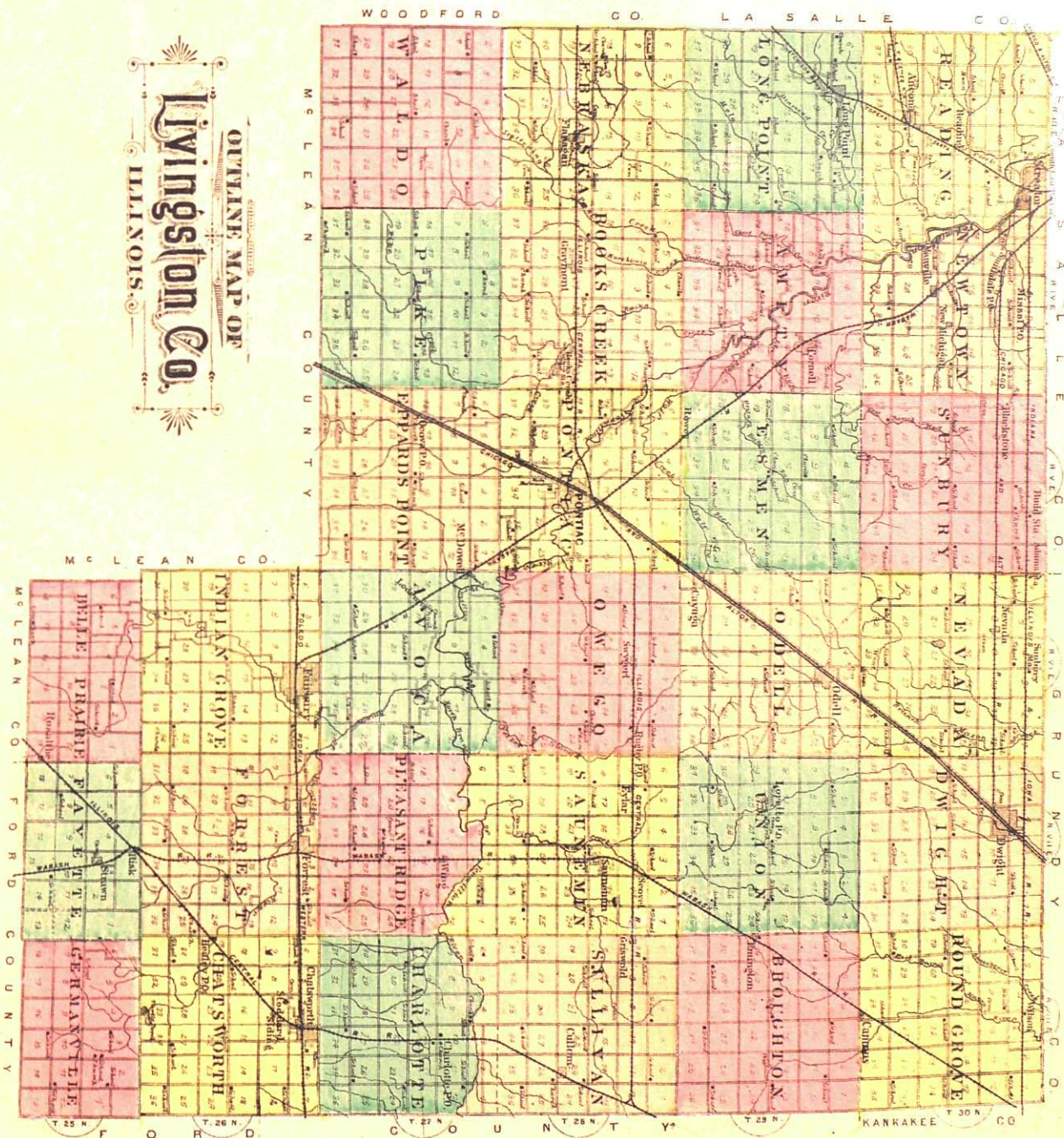
It is to be regretted that the enterprise could not have been undertaken when the stories of those who were the chief actors in our earlier history could have been learned from their own lips. The early pioneers have mostly passed away. Forty years ago, many could have told the tale of their toils, but whose lips are now forever sealed and tradition alone hands down to us the story of their experiences.

Human memory is treacherous, and forty revolving years bedim and clothe with uncertainty the history told by the third generation. We have sought to prepare a sketch of each township with equal fidelity to the facts and information within our reach, and while errors may have crept in, we have endeavored as far as possible to avoid them, and with such limitations and shortcomings as have been unavoidable, this History is submitted to the public.

In a few instances we were compelled to obtain our information from a work compiled by Messrs. Pearre and McDowell. We are also indebted to Messrs, H. C. Jones and W. F. Denslow, both of Pontiac, and old settlers of this county, for favors extended in the way of files of early local papers and for other information which could not have been otherwise obtained in the compilation of this work.

Ford B. Johnson.
Geo. H. Franzen

OUTLINE MAP OF
 Livingston Co.
 ILLINOIS



INDEX

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

Geology—Coal Discoveries and Mining—Lime Stone—Some Indian History—Father Jesse Walker Finds an Indian Mission in Livingston County Territory—Some Black Hawk War Incidents—General Topography—Vermilion River and Deer Park—Soil—Livingston County as an Agricultural Region—Corn Product—The Early Squatters—Forestry—Pontiac an Early Wooding Station—Changes in Vermilion Timber Region..... 617-623

CHAPTER II.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Problems which Confronted the Early Home-Seeker—Methods of Building the Pioneer Cabin—Going to Mill—Hardships and Dangers Encountered by the Pioneers—List of First Settlers by Townships—Jeremiah Cooper's Reminiscences—Early Amusements and Church Meetings..... 623-627

CHAPTER III.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

Early Farming—Pioneer Methods—Chicago the Grain Market—Benefits of Drainage—Fertility of Livingston County Lands—Primitive Farming Implements—Improvements Wrought in Fifty Years—Cutting and Threshing Grain—A Pioneer Plow Factory—Fences..... 627-631

CHAPTER IV.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

Area and Date of Organization of Livingston County—Set Apart from McLean and LaSalle Counties in 1837—Location of County-Seat at Pontiac—First Election of County Officers—Organization of Precincts—Grand and Petit Juries—First General Election and Vote for Local and State Officers—Subsequent Elections and List of Candidates 631-638

CHAPTER V.

TOWNSHIPS AND VILLAGES.

- Organization of Townships in Livingston County in 1857—Geographical Areas and Origin of Names—Subsequent Changes—First Settlers—List of Villages and Cities with Dates of Incorporation—Some Abandoned Villages..... 638-640

CHAPTER VI.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

- First Board of Supervisors—Grand and Petit Jurors—Disposition of Swamp Land Income—Receipts to be Invested in Construction of Roads and County Jail—Action on Liquor Licenses—Rates of Taxation—Organization of the New Township of Waldo—Early Tax Collections—Assessments of 1858 and 1907 Compared—Railroad Taxes 1907 640-646

CHAPTER VII.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

- Court Houses—First Term of Livingston Circuit Court Held in a Log Cabin—Judge Samuel H. Treat the Presiding Justice—First Court House Erected in 1839-40—Other Judges Who Presided There—Second Building Erected in 1857—Description of Present Building Erected in 1875—Present Official Occupants of the Building—First County Jail Erected in 1867—Changes Which Have Been Made in the Building..... 646-651

CHAPTER VIII.

RAILROADS—BANKS—PUBLIC UTILITIES.

- Railroads in Livingston County—Six Main Lines Penetrate the County, Aggregating 240 Miles—List of Lines and Stations—Banking History—List of National and State Banks—Their Founders and Present Officers—Early Mail Routes—Rural Free Delivery—Telegraph and Telephone Lines..... 651-654

CHAPTER IX.

POLITICAL.

- Political Events in Livingston County—Citizens Who Have Been Prominent in Their Respective Political Parties—The Republican Convention of 1856—Congressional Contests—The Lincoln-Douglas Campaign of 1858—The Presidential Campaign of 1860—Some Later Election Contests—John Wentworth's Reminiscences of Some Early Campaigns—Citizens Who Have Represented Livingston County in the General Assembly—Official Vote of Livingston County in 1908.. 654-671

CHAPTER X.

MILITARY HISTORY—SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

Record of Livingston County in the Civil War—Regiments in Which Citizens of the County Served—List of Companies and Principal Officers—Spanish-American War Record—List of Officers and Privates Who Served in That Struggle—Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument at Pontiac—History of Its Erection—Dedicated by President Roosevelt—Other Monuments of Pontiac, Fairbury and Forrest Township—Reunion of One Hundred Twenty-ninth, 1908..... 671-679

CHAPTER XI.

EDUCATIONAL.

Some Points in Reference to Conditions in Early Schools in Livingston County—A Teacher's Certificate and Days of the Log School House—History of the First Academy—The Pontiac High School—Catholic Parochial Schools and Academies—Lutheran and Amish Schools—The District Schools—County School Commissioners and Superintendents—Progress Under Different Incumbents—Adoption of a Uniform Text-Book System—Reports of Early Teachers' Institutes—General School Statistics of Livingston County for 1908—Pontiac Public Library..... 679-687

CHAPTER XII.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BENCH AND BAR.

Early Lawyers in Livingston County—Woodford G. McDowell the First Lawyer to Locate in the County—Other Practitioners Who Had a Notable Career—Judge Billings P. Babcock, John H. McGregor, Alfred E. Harding, Jason W. Strevell, John B. Perry, Lewis E. Payson, Judge N. J. Pillsbury and Others Who Established Notable Reputations—Personal Sketches of Lawyers of the Present Day—Livingston County Judges..... 687-693

CHAPTER XIII.

MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Pioneer Physicians and Their Hardships—Early Nurses and Remedies—Dr. John Davis the First Physician—Long List of Followers, With Biographical Sketches—Coming of the Homeopathist in 1865—Dentists in Pontiac..... 693-697

CHAPTER XIV.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY PRESS.

Early Newspapers of Livingston County—Methods of Journalism Fifty Years Ago—Visit of the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII.) in 1860—Individual List of Early Papers—Names of Founders and Places of Publication—Papers of the Present Day..... 697-700

CHAPTER XV.

CHURCH HISTORY.

Early Circuit Riders in Livingston County—Rev. Jesse Walker, the Pioneer Methodist, Finds an Indian Mission in 1826—Other Workers of a Later Date—History of Catholic Parish of Odell—Pontiac Methodist Church—The Part of Its Members in the Civil War—Church Buildings—Pontiac Presbyterian Church—Christian Church Founded in 1854—History of Pontiac Baptist Church—Colored Churches of Pontiac—Early Sunday Schools.....700-710

CHAPTER XVI.

HOSPITALS, BENEVOLENT AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The Keeley Institute—Record of Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, Its Founder—Beneficent Results Accomplished in Cure of the Disease of Drunkenness—Officers of the Institute—St. James Hospital, Pontiac—Its Founders and Principal Promoters—Mennonite Home for the Defenseless—The County Farm—Description of Alms House Building—Illinois State Reformatory—History and Scope of the Institution—Principal Officers Since Date of Organization.....710-717

CHAPTER XVII.

PATRIOTIC, RELIGIOUS AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Grand Army of the Republic—G. A. R. Posts at Pontiac, Dwight, Fairbury, Chatsworth, Saunemin, Cornell, Forrest, Odell and Long Point—Dates of Organization and Officers—Woman's Relief Corps—Sons of Veterans—Army Nurses—Pontiac Bible Society—Young Men's Christian Association—Its History—Building and Officers—Fraternal Organizations by Townships.....717-722

CHAPTER XVIII.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

First County Fair Held at Pontiac in 1856—Later Fairs and Changes—County Fair System Abandoned in 1878—Fairbury Union Agricultural Board Organized in 1876—First Officers—Fairbury Fairs Continued to the Present Time—Belle Prairie Agricultural Society Organized in 1883—First Board of Directors—Fairs Discontinued in 1903 but Resumed in 1907.....723-725

CHAPTER XIX.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Noted People Who Have Visited Livingston County—The Prince of Wales (King Edward VII. of England) a Visitor in 1860—Abraham Lincoln's Several Visits—Lincoln Lecture at Pontiac—Passing of Funeral Train to Springfield—Stephen A. Douglas, Owen Lovejoy, Robert J. Ingersoll and Other Noted Visitors—Gen. Grant a Guest at Pontiac in 1880—William J. Bryan and Theodore Roosevelt Comers of a Later Period.....725-731

CHAPTER XX.

PHENOMENA—CALAMITOUS EVENTS.

Reminiscences of the Deep Snow of 1830-31—Highwater of 1859—Havoc Caused by Flood in Vermilion River—List of Principal Sufferers—Wind Storms—Destructive Hurricanes of 1859—Later Visitations—Pontiac, Odell, Fairbury and Amity Township Serious Sufferers.... 731-735

CHAPTER XXI.

COLONIES OF FOREIGN SETTLERS.

Arrival of First Norwegian Colony in the United States in 1825—Story of the Voyage—Cling Pearson, the Leader, Visits Illinois—First Colony Arrives in La Salle County in 1834—Later Arrivals from Norway—Land Market Conditions—Norsemens in Livingston County Number about 750—Religious Organization—The Amish (German Menno-nite) Settlement—Rules of Life and Religious Faith..... 735-738

CHAPTER XXII.

NOTABLE CRIMES.

Tragical History of an Early Murder Case in Livingston County—An Innocent Man Convicted and Executed on Circumstantial Evidence—Other Noted Capital Crimes—The Soter-Rollins Murder Case—The Prussian Pole, Ponwitz, Assassinated by His Partner—Perpetrators of the Marlott Murder Escape Punishment—The Farmer Jones Murder and Brutal Lynching of His Son—Assassination of City Marshal Hodge of Pontiac—The Only Legal Hanging..... 738-743

CHAPTER XXIII.

A GOLD SEEKER'S REMINISCENCES.

Experience of a Party of Argonauts of 1849—Story of Three Expeditions to the California Gold Mines—The Mining Experience Successful, but the Returning Gold-Seekers Become the Victims of Mexican Bandits and Mississippi River Thieves—A Third Expedition Turns Away From Pike's Peak to the Pacific Coast—List of Members of These Several Expeditions..... 743-746

CHAPTER XXIV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An Underground Railroad Case—Story of the Trial of James Stout for Aiding a Fugitive Slave—Stout Conducts His Own Case and is Acquitted, While His Associates are Convicted—Some First Things—The First Land Conveyance and First Marriage in Livingston County 746-750

CHAPTER XXV.
TOWNSHIP HISTORY.

Individual Sketches of the Several Townships in Livingston County—
First Settlers With Incidents of Local History—Sketches of Vil-
lages—Local Church and School History—Early Business Enterprises
and Business Men—Reminiscences of Underground Railroad Day... 750-832

CHAPTER XXVI.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

The Part of Biography in General History—Citizens of Livingston County
and the Part They Have Borne in County History—(Personal
Sketches in This Department Having Been Arranged in Alphabetical
Order, No Index by Names of Subjects is Deemed Necessary), 833-1095

PORTRAITS

Allen, Frank D.....	626	Fox, Henry	804
Bauman, August F.....	622	Froebe, Caroline	810
Bauman, Emma E.....	624	Froebe, Charles J. and Family.....	808
Beaman, Louis R.....	628	Froebe, Nicholas	810
Beaman, Mrs. Louis R.....	628	Fugate, Daniel	812
Beardsley, Alice E.....	634	Fugate, Mrs. Daniel	812
Beardsley, Amanda	638	Gallup, Cecelia	822
Beardsley, Celestus	638	Gallup, Joseph	820
Beardsley, Oscar	634	Gallup, Marion	816
Belles of '60	642	Gallup, Nellie Kimball	818
Bennett, George H.....	654	Gamblin, Sarah J.....	836
Bennett, Mrs. George H.....	656	Gamblin, William	836
Bennett, John	660	Garretson, Hannah	832
Bennett, Rachel S.....	660	Garretson, James A.....	830
Bergan, James	664	Garretson, Mary E.....	836
Bourland, Ogden P.....	666	Garretson, William H.....	836
Bradbury, Benjamin F.....	670	Gerbis, Henry	882
Camp, Apollos	672	Gerbis, Mrs. Henry	882
Carter, James A.....	690	Gower, Bailey A.....	840
Carter, James H.....	694	Gower, John	844
Carter, Mrs. James H.....	694	Grosh, Ezra and Family.....	848
Carter, Jeannie B.....	692	Harms, Henry H. and Family.....	850
Carter, Lucius S.....	696	Hieronymus, Alvira M.....	858
Carter, Mrs. Lucius S.....	698	Hieronymus, Benjamin	858
Church, Frederick J.....	720	Hieronymus, M. Eliza.....	856
Church, Mary A.....	720	Hieronymus, William H.....	854
Claudon, Nicholas B.....	722	Hitch, Henrietta	862
Cleary, Michael	726	Hitch, Stephen S.....	862
Cleary, William P.....	728	Hornbeck, Henry	864
Colbourne, John A.....	734	Hornbeck, Sarah J.....	864
Colehower, Benjamin F.....	738	Hoyt, Stephen A.....	868
Cook, John P.....	742	Humiston, Bennet	872
Cooper, John	746	Humiston, Harriet	876
Cooper, Mrs. S. J.....	748	Hummel, Anton	882
Corbett, John C.....	752	Hummel, Mrs. Anton	882
Corkhill, Clara A.....	758	Hummel, Henry and Family	880
Corkhill, Frank S.....	756	Jackson, Ethan A	884
Cornell, Walter	762	John, Reason M.....	888
Cottingham, Belle	766	Johnson, Benjamin R.....	892
Cottingham, George R.....	766	Johnson, Fordyce B.....	Following Title Page
Cowan, Augustus W.....	768	Joost, Henry	896
Crocker, Fletcher L.....	772	Kerrins, James H.....	900
Crum, David S.....	776	Kessler, Walter A.....	904
Crum, Jane E.....	778	Kimball, Ira	824
Crumbaker, John H.....	782	Kimball, Lucy M. P.....	826
Crumbaker, Mrs. John H.....	782	Koehler, Johannes	908
Danforth, Henry P.....	786	Kuhn, LeRoy P.....	910
Danforth, M. Lucia.....	786	Lange, Edwin L.....	912
Fetzer, Josiah M.....	790	Lange, Mary J.....	914
Fetzer, Mary F.....	792	Litchfield, Edward	916
Feriter, Bridget	798	Lytle, Mary J.....	860
Feriter, Patrick	796	Lytle, Thomas	860
Fitch, Mary Burr	810	McCabe, George W.....	920
Fitch, Theodore C.....	810	McGowan, Daniel and Family.....	924
Fleischhauer, John and Family.....	802	McWilliams, David	928

McWilliams, John	932	Sterrenberg, Peter	970
Morris, Jephthah O. and Family	936	Sterrenberg, Mrs. Peter	970
Morris, Sylvester P.	938	Sterry, Christopher W.	972
Morris, Mrs. Sylvester P.	940	Stevens, Eber B.	974
Myers, David S.	944	Stevens, Mrs. E. B.	974
Nimmo, William	694	Strawn, Christopher C. .Following Title Page	
Nimmo, Mrs. William	694	Taggart, James H.	976
Palmer, Henry	948	Thomas, Henry M.	978
Palmer, Mrs. Henry	950	Thomas, Margaret J.	980
Patton, Francis M.	954	Webber, George	982
Pricer, Mary E.	960	Webber, Lucinda	984
Pricer, Samuel M.	958	Wheeler, Oscar B.	986
Rabe, William L.	962	Wheeler, Oscar B., Sr.	988
Ryan, John F.	966	White, Frederick G.	990
Slagel, Joseph	968	Zinn, Julius W.	994

ILLUSTRATIONS

Baptist Church	706
Court House (1856)	646
Court House (1875)	650
Grace Episcopal Church	706
Illinois State Reformatory	716
Livingston County Poor Farm	714
Map of Livingston County	Following Title Page
Methodist Episcopal Church	706
Pontiac Township High School	680
Presbyterian Church	706
Public Library	686
Residence of Anton Hummel	882
Residence of Daniel McGowan	924
Residence of Theodore H. Lommatsch	964
Scenes on the Vermillion River	730
Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument	676
St. James Hospital	712
St. Mary's Catholic Church	706
St. Mary's School	680
St. Paul's Catholic Church	700
St. Paul's Catholic Church (Interior)	700
St. Paul's Catholic School	702
St. Paul's Parochial Residence	702
The Keeley Institute	710
Young Men's Christian Association	686

HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

GEOLOGY—COAL DISCOVERIES AND MINING—LIMESTONE—SOME INDIAN HISTORY—FATHER JESSE WALKER FOUNDS AN INDIAN MISSION IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY TERRITORY—SOME BLACKHAWK WAR INCIDENTS—GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY—VERMILION RIVER AND DEER PARK—SOIL—LIVINGSTON COUNTY AS AN AGRICULTURAL REGION—CORN PRODUCT—THE EARLY SQUATTERS—FORESTRY—PONTIAC AN EARLY WOODING STATION—CHANGES IN VERMILION TIMBER REGION.

The geological formations are not unlike those common to the central portion of the state with the important difference that in this county, coal and stone are found in abundance, although the earlier settlers were in ignorance of the fact. In the earlier days the residents lived in or adjacent to the timber, and no fuel was needed other than the forest supplied.

In the latter '50s coal was discovered cropping out of the ground in Reading Township. The coal was gotten out of the ground by the owner of the land, and it was sold at \$1.00 a load—big or little.

The county was beginning to be rapidly populated in the early '60s, two railroads passing through it, and it was self-evident that there would not be enough timber left in the county at the rate it was being consumed.

In 1862, Henry L. Marsh, of Fairbury, began the sinking of a shaft on his tract of land, a mile west of Fairbury. After three attempts, a five-foot vein of coal was struck in 1863 at a depth of 180 feet. A few years later, two more shafts were sunk in that village and also one at

Pontiac. Shafts were also sunk at Forrest, Chatsworth, Odell, Cayuga and Dwight, but they proved failures. There are mines now in operation at Pontiac, Fairbury, Cardiff, Cornell, Coalville and in Reading Township, south of Streator, from which thousands of tons of coal are being taken out daily.

The total output of Livingston County mines, in 1907, was 269,811 tons.

Ledges of limestone, suitable for building purposes, are found on Indian Creek, southwest of Fairbury, and in some parts along the banks of the Vermilion river. In the vicinity of Pontiac, calcereo-siliceous stone is found. In sinking the mine at Fairbury, a dark sandstone of peculiar color was found. The front of one building in that city was built with it, but it did not withstand the storms.

Sand and gravel can be found in abundance in a major portion of the townships.

SOME INDIAN HISTORY.

When Martin Darnall first settled with his family in this county in the fall of 1830, there was a band of Kickapoo Indians located near Selma, in McLean County. During the previous year, the tribe came over into Livingston County, and pitched their tents in what is now known as Oliver's Grove, south of Chatsworth. They numbered 630 men, women and children. Their intercourse with the earlier settlers was friendly, and there is no account of any white man having been killed by them within the limits of the county. The Indians raised some corn, beans, potatoes and tobacco, but the area under cultivation was small, as the crop was grown in patches here and there. They were great traders, and ready to swap at any time, and quick to see when they obtained the best of a bargain. During the winter of the deep snow (1830), they, as well as the few settlers, suffered severely from the intense cold and scarcity of food. Their council house was a large one, in which they always assembled when they had any business

of a public nature to transact. During the continuance of the storm, they did all of their cooking in this house.

Father Jesse Walker, a pioneer Methodist minister, then located at Ottawa, established a mission among these Indians. He came out occasionally and held meetings with them, making the trip on horseback, and appointed and ordained a missionary minister of their own tribe, who always held religious services on the Sabbath when Father Walker was not there. They used some kind of characters—cut or printed—on a small board, as a prayer book. Every one of them had this same kind of a "book," and they held it almost as sacred as they did their own lives, always using it before retiring to bed at night. It was their universal custom to return from their hunting grounds on Saturday evening of each and every week, and to be in attendance at church on Sabbath morning. Their usual custom on the Sabbath was to prepare for a public dinner in the morning, which, by the way, was always a boiled dinner. This was placed in their camp kettles, hung in a long row through the center of the grounds where their meetings were held. Fires were built under them, which kept the kettles boiling while the Indians held their service. During the hours of service, the Indian men were seated on one side of the dinner kettles, the women, or squaws, on the other, the children at one end, and the minister stood at the other end. Thus the congregation was arranged while the minister was performing his duty. During all this time, there were two of the Indian men who stood near the children, to see that perfect order was kept. After the services were all over, the dinner kettles were set off, and all partook of the dinner thus prepared. It was served out in wooden bowls and trenchers, with ladles, spoons, etc., of the same material. The dinner generally consisted of venison, 'coon, opossum, turtle, fish, or any kind of meat they had, and corn, beans and potatoes, all cooked together in the same kettles and at the same time, generally leaving a quantity of soup.

On the breaking out of the Black Hawk war in 1832, Livingston County was a border county in this part of the State. There was great fear of Indian raids. It was known that Black Hawk's emissaries had solicited the Kickapoos to join him in the attacks on the whites. On May 24th they were waited upon by a deputation of whites,

several being present from McLean County, for the purpose of ascertaining their intentions. Those present at the meeting from this county were Martin Darnall and the McDowells, William Popejoy, Abner Johnson, Uriah Blue, Isaac Jordan and John Hanneman. At this meeting, Franklin Oliver, after whom the grove was named, presided. The Indians treated the whites with great courtesy and made a feast for them. The leading chiefs told them they had been importuned to join Black Hawk, but had declined; but that some of the young warriors wanted to go on the warpath, while the older chiefs were endeavoring to hold them back.

In the evening, the visitors witnessed some strange religious ceremonies by the Indians who had been converted to christianity. "All were seated on the ground, except the leader, and they sang and exhorted for a long time. At last the leader took his seat and then occurred a singular ceremony. An Indian stepped forward and asked to be whipped for his sins he had committed during the week, and he drew his garment over his head, exposing his bare back. Fourteen stripes were given him by these Indians, with smooth hickory rods about three feet long. The stripes were received without a movement to indicate pain. This example was followed by fifty others, who received fourteen to twenty-eight stripes laid on with such force than any one of them left a mark. The stripes were administered by three Indians. When fourteen stripes were called for, the first Indian gave seven, the second four, and the last, three. When twenty-eight stripes were called for, the first Indian gave fourteen, the second seven, and the last, seven. When each applicant for stripes had been whipped, he turned around and shook hands with the men who bore the rods. The interpreter told the whites who were looking on that these stripes were given because of disobedience to the commands of the Great Spirit during the week."

The whites, however, distrusted their pacific intentions. On their return home from the council, the members of the deputation stopped at the McDowell cabin in Avoca, which had been erected but a few weeks previous, and took dinner, and they advised the settlers either to abandon their homes or erect fortifications. There were but two rifles and little or no ammunition in the whole settlement, and this scheme was impracticable. The following day, all the men of

the settlement held a council and it was decided that they return to Indiana, from which they had emigrated. On the following morning (May 26th) some volunteered to go to the timber for wood. When the teams and volunteers returned, within about half a mile of the camping ground, two Indians appeared on the ridge. Some of those at the camp were so badly scared at the appearance of the Indians, thinking perhaps they (the Indians at the village) were gathering for an attack on the whites, that they were leaving without giving time for the wood party to come up—some, however, declared their determination to have their breakfast, Indians or no Indians. The party was too small for fight, although they had been traveling without their wives and little ones, that they would not have been disposed to run on such a scare. But the feelings of our frontier men were as strong, if not stronger, for the protection of the feeble portion of their families, than nowadays. They, however, waited for the wooding party to come up, and although the camp was still in commotion and many fears expressed for the safety of the party, they concluded to get and eat their breakfast. It was soon ascertained, however, that the two Indians were friendly Kickapoos, who had come to bid their white friends farewell. On the evening of May 28th, the entire population around Avoca camped in and around the McDowell cabin, preparatory to the march the following morning. In the party were the families of Hiram McDowell, Abner Johnson, Uriah Blue, Nathan Popejoy, Isaac Jordon and John Hanneman, and their families—some thirty in all. The following morning, the whole company, consisting of seven families in six wagons, and pulled by ox-teams, left for Indiana. On the second day of their march, a daughter was born to the wife of Isaac Jordon. The next day the mother and child were left at the home of Philip Cook, of Cook's Grove, and the remainder of the party pushed on to their native state.

Martin Darnall, A. B. Phillips and James Spence found it necessary to remove with their families to Mackinaw for safety. They remained there until peace was declared. Mrs. Darnall's father had had some experience with the Indians in Kentucky. He was captured by Indians, and was held in captivity for seven years, during which time he suffered almost untold hardships. Upon three separate occasions he was compelled to run the gauntlet, and upon occasion was black-

ened and condemned to be burned at the stake, but while pinioned, a few moments before the fire should have been lighted, there stepped forward a man who offered a price for his life, and he was released from the stake.

The McDowells and the Avoca contingent returned some time in November. Franklin Oliver did not leave, but went among the Indians whenever he pleased and without fear of molestation. It is said of Mr. Oliver that at the Kickapoo village there was a squaw who had a bright little pappoose which she called Joe. Taking an interest in the little chap, Mr. Oliver requested her permission to give him another name. She consented, and handed him a piece of buckskin, on which he wrote "Joe Oliver." In February, 1869, the celebrated chief was one of an Indian delegation which met in Washington.

In September, 1832, the Kickapoos were removed by the government west of St. Louis, on lands reserved for them by the government.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Livingston County is bounded on the north by LaSalle and Grundy counties; on the east by Kankakee and Ford; on the south by Ford and McLean; on the west by McLean, Woodford and LaSalle counties. It embraces ranges 3 to 8, east of the third principal meridian; and townships from 25 to 30, north of the base line of the State, being thirty-six miles from east to west, and twenty-four from north to south, with an addition of eighteen miles (east to west), by nine and three-fourth miles (north to south), constituting the southern portion of the eastern half of the county. It contains twenty-seven full congressional townships, namely: Reading, Newtown, Sunbury, Nevada, Dwight, Round Grove, Long Point, Amity, Esmen, Odell, Union, Broughton, Nebraska, Rooks Creek, Pontiac, Owego, Saunemin, Sullivan, Waldo, Pike, Eppards Point, Avoca, Pleasant Ridge, Charlotte, Indian Grove, Forrest and Chatsworth; and three fractional townships, to-wit: Belle Prairie, Fayette and Germanville.

Livingston County is one of the largest, richest and most fertile and productive counties in the State. The forty-first parallel of latitude passes through the second tier of townships in the northern part of the county. The area of the county is 1,026 square miles. In size, it ranks fourth in the state, the counties of LaSalle, McLean and Iroquois being slightly larger.

The Vermilion river has its rise in the extreme

southeastern portion of the county and is fed by the following tributaries: South Branch, Indian creek, Turtle creek, Wolf creek, Rooks creek, Mud creek, Long Point and Scattering Point creeks, most of which have their rise in the county. All of these streams are living water, fed by springs, affording ample water for stock, and splendid drainage for all parts of the county.

In the early days of the county, the Vermillion and the larger branches were well stocked with fish, of which the pickerel, bass and catfish were the predominating varieties. Since the county has become thoroughly settled and the sloughs along the river drained out, the pickerel have entirely disappeared, being supplanted by the German carp and different species of bass which were planted by the State Fish Commission.

The Vermillion is a tributary of the Illinois, emptying into that river about one mile above LaSalle, in LaSalle County, cutting the south part of that county from southeast to northwest. It is a rapid stream, with high bluffs and narrow bottoms. The scenery along its banks, from its source to the mouth, is very grand and imposing. The strata which compose its banks are rich in fossils and the geologist and lover of nature will be well paid for a trip along its rugged banks. After the river enters LaSalle County, there are many points of interest along its route. The famous grotto of Deer Park is on the right bank, a mile or two from its mouth. It is in the St. Peter's sandstone region, which shows itself on the Vermillion. It is cut in the bluff, on a level with the river at low water, winding somewhat like the letter S, and extending some one hundred rods or more. The sides are perpendicular and, at the extreme end, about ninety feet high. At that point, the sides project or shelve over about seventy feet on each side. In wet weather there is a pretty waterfall, and at times a clear pool of water and fine spring. The opening at the top is about one hundred feet, and is fringed with pines and other trees. It is a great curiosity and a very popular place of resort, and is visited annually by many citizens of this county.

THE SOIL.

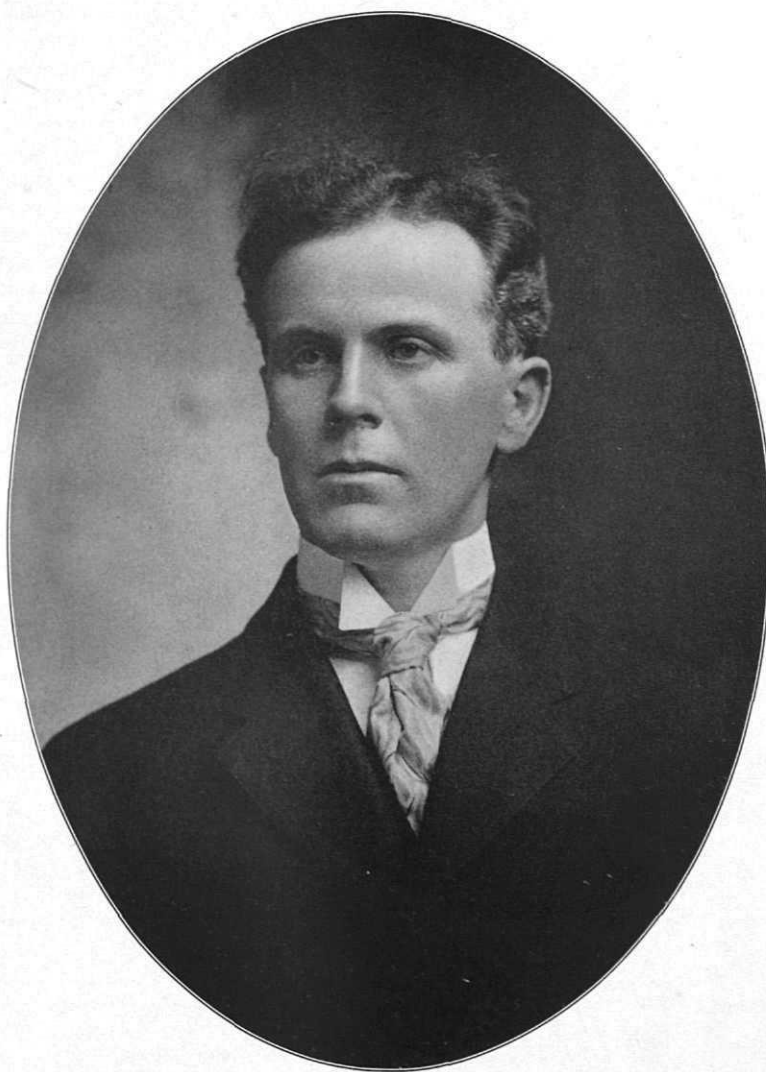
The soil of this county is a deep black alluvial loam of almost inexhaustible fertility, with a porous subsoil of clay and gravel. The drainage is effected by the Vermillion river and its branches. The county is completely covered with beautiful and productive farms. Farming lands in the

county range in price from \$125 to \$250 per acre, according to the location and improvements. Farm lands, even at these prices, are considered a safe investment, as few farms are now being offered for sale.

In the later '50s land in Livingston County could still be bought for one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. It took care of itself. By renting it, it speedily paid for itself. The thrifty souls in those days, foreseeing the result, bought acre after acre and, adding one tract to another, speedily laid the foundation for an immense fortune. There was a tradition current then that the raw prairie would not raise crops, that the soil was sour and that it was unadvisable to locate far from the streams, both on account of the non-fertility of the soil and so as to be near the fuel supply. Settlers from the Eastern states had this belief, and before they could buy prairie soil they would dig a portion of the soil out and then throw it back into the hole. If it more than filled the excavation, they judged that the land was fertile and they purchased. If it did not, they went elsewhere.

In those days agriculture was not taught in the schools and colleges of this country and "seed and soil specialists" were unknown. And then, too, money in this county commanded two per cent a month. The sums loaned on farm lands were not large, but there was a pretty constant call for money at this rate. A man could afford to pay even this when he was getting his land for a dollar and a quarter an acre.

Livingston County is the greatest corn producing county in the State of Illinois. More acres are planted and more bushels are raised than in any other county in the State. It likewise surpasses all others in acreage of oats. It has few, if any, equals in the world, in the production of these valuable cereals. It has more arable land than any other county in the State. The total area of cultivated land in the county is about 600,000 acres, of which two-fifths is annually devoted to the raising of corn. The acreage of corn in the county in 1907 was over 285,000 acres, and the yield was nearly 12,000,000 bushels. Besides all that was used for home consumption, there was more corn shipped out of Livingston County in 1907 than the amount raised in the following 16 States and Territories: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Utah, New Mexico,



W. H. Allen.

Arizona and California. And it wasn't a very good year for corn, either, the rainfall during the season being quite heavy and frost earlier than usual.

Of oats, there were in the county over 195,000 acres, nearly one-third of the area of cultivated land, the largest acreage of oats of any county in the State. The yield was over 7,000,000 bushels. At thirty-five cents per bushel, the value of the oats produced was nearly \$2,000,000. Over three-fourths of the cultivated land in the county is devoted to raising these two cereals. One-eighth of arable land is devoted to hay and pasture. Beef cattle to the number of 5,000, valued at \$200,000, and 25,000 hogs, worth \$300,000, were marketed during the year.

Poultry raising is extensive in the county, exceeding any other county in the state. The business is profitable, the product of two good hens being equal to the receipts of an acre of oats. Over nine million eggs and about 300,000 chickens are annually marketed.

A large portion of Livingston County was, in the early settlement of the state, composed of low, wet land, known as swamp land. The present productiveness of the county is largely due to the extensive use of drain tile. There are laid in the county nearly 12,000 miles of drain tile, an amount exceeding any other county in the state, surpassing any other county of its size in the United States, equal to the length of all the railroads in Illinois, and greater than the combined length of the three greatest rivers in the world, the Nile, Amazon and Mississippi.

Forty years ago, only 220,732 acres of land in the county was being cultivated, 38,540 being in wheat, 140,977 in corn, 41,215 in other grains.

THE "SQUATTERS."—The first settlers were generally denominated "squatters." They were said to "squat" on any piece of land that suited their fancy. If they remained until the land came into market, and went to the land office at Danville to enter it legally, they were always allowed the first choice in securing the claim they had chosen. It was unsafe for speculators to purchase and endeavor to hold such a claim. The squatters were a kind of law unto themselves, and dealt with such persons in a summary manner, seldom, if ever, allowing them to occupy a claim thus obtained. These measures, vigorous as they were, almost always secured them the homes for which they had labored, and, considering the times and the known greed and rapacity

of the speculators, the measures may be looked upon as just.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FORESTRY.

Anyone familiar with the Vermilion river region sixty years ago, will recall the heavy timber setting which lined the banks of the streams and the bottom lands. At the period named, there was no finer favored timber section in the State of Illinois. The banks of the Vermilion and its tributary streams were thickly set with giant trees, the growth of centuries, especially those of the harder species—oak, ash, sugar tree, etc. On both banks of the Vermilion was the home of the oak, more especially, and from these lofty elevations their massive, shapely, sturdy forms were lifted high in the air, their spreading branches would meet over the center of the stream, and then in their summer glory of verdure forming a leafy canopy, defying the penetration of the sun's rays except in glintings here and there. To make this point very plain and emphatic, the banks of the Vermilion on which the business portion of Pontiac is now situated, were thus crowned with giant oaks, and the banks on the south side of the river, now the finest residence section of the city, were oak-crowned, the growth of centuries. All is gone now, except here and there an occasional specimen in some residence lot.

For forty years, the early settler along the Vermilion river and its tributaries found ample timber for his wants of fencing and buildings. In the early settlement of this county along the streams, log cabins were the only houses in use, and for many years they were built entirely from the material taken directly from the forest, in the following manner: Trees were chopped down, logs measured off to the length desired for the size of the cabin, generally 16 by 18 or 20 feet, and the number was governed somewhat by the height of the cabin, which was generally ranging at from eight to twelve logs high. They were drawn together with oxen, by hitching to one end of the log and drawing it on the ground. Large trees were cut and sawed in four-foot lengths, split into bolts, then rived into clapboards for the purpose of covering the house. Other large trees were cut and split into broad puncheons, then leveled on one side and flattened at the ends, so as to lay them down for floors. Then the entire settlement of men were called together to raise the house, which was generally done in one day, men going from two to twenty-five miles to

raise the cabin. Then came the process of chinking and daubing the cracks or spaces between the logs. The chimneys were made of what was called "cat and clay," made of sticks and mortar, with straw mixed in to hold the mud together around the sticks of which the chimneys were built. The cracks of the house between the logs were daubed or plastered over the chinking, so as to make them tight and shut out cold weather and rains. Doors were made of clapboards or puncheons hung with wooden hinges and fastened with a wooden latch, a string fastened to the latch, put through the door and hanging on the outside to pull down and unfasten the door.

In 1854, the "iron horse" with its "breath of steam" and "heart of fire," entered the county from the north. His heart of fire said "feed me," and all the early locomotives were wood burners. His rumbling feet said, "Build me a road-bed of ties and construct that bridge pretty quick." And, as they were then,—are now, and seemingly ever will be—of wood, and as the early bridges and trestle work and piles were of necessity of wood, the oak-crowned banks of the Vermillion gave up their glory. Swept with more than cyclonic force by axe and saw, the giant trees fell to earth. The shapely trunks were wrought into timbers for bridges and ties and the remainder into wood to feed the "heart of fire." Tossed from the banks, the fragmentary giants lined up in the lumber yards, and ricks of wood planking the tracks for miles.

When the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad entered Pontiac in July, 1854, the little hamlet was made a wooding station for the engines, and remained so until coal was brought into general use for this purpose along in the late '60s. Thus, for over ten years, every engine along the line of the road between Chicago and St. Louis would stop at Pontiac for wood, all cut from the banks of the Vermillion near the line of the road. A large wood shed was erected by the company along the tracks of the road between Livingston and Prairie streets for this purpose, where the farmers would bring in their four-foot wood and throw it into the shed to be cut up into one and one-third lengths ready for the fire box. William Googerty and his son, William Googerty, Jr., were the contractors to supply the road with wood at this point, and they held it as long as wood was used for fuel. While it lasted, it was the only "industry" in the hamlet at the time.

Two band saws, run by horse-power, were kept running almost constantly night and day, and it was the means of giving many people employment, which in those days was hard to find.

The next railroad to use the timber along the banks of the Vermillion river was the Fairbury, Pontiac and Northwestern, now the Wabash. The line was first built from Streator to Fairbury, a distance of thirty-two miles, and every tie and culvert was made from the oak trees which lined the river from Streator to Fairbury.

But this was not all. From the time that Martin Darnall first sunk his axe into a tree in Indian Grove in 1830, preparatory to the erection of his cabin, down to the present time, a lapse of nearly eighty years, the forests along the Vermillion and its tributaries in the county supplied the lumber for various uses. For twenty-five years from the first settlement down to the time of the first railroad, most all the houses in the county, including the first court house, were built from lumber taken from the banks of the streams. There are some houses in the county still standing today in a good state of preservation, the frames of which were hewn from the timber along the banks of the different streams. Most all the rude furniture of the early settlers was made from the trees and the first furniture stores in the county manufactured all their product, including coffins, from the beautiful black walnut, oak, etc., which abounded in great quantities.

The timber was the only source of the fuel supply for the early settlers on the prairies, until coal was discovered in large quantities in Reading township, protruding from the banks of the Vermillion river along in the early '60s.

In the early days, the huge maple trees supplied the sap from which the settlers made their sugar. Both the hard and soft variety of this beautiful tree was found in abundance then, but only a few are standing today. About the finest specimen now can be seen on what is known as the Algae farm in Amity township. The black walnut is fast disappearing and is now being eagerly sought by the buyers for the large furniture factories throughout the United States. Great quantities of the trees are chopped down every year in this county, the logs of which are shipped to the factories to be made into different articles of furniture. The hickory trees, which grew in abundance along the banks of the Vermil-



August F. Bauman

ion, have disappeared almost entirely. About twenty-five years ago, this variety of tree was attacked by a variety of bugs which killed them by the thousands.

Walking for miles along the Vermilion and its tributaries today, and seeing these now denuded banks with no more fringe of brush than of hair on a billiard ball, and remembering how it used to be, makes one sigh at the destructive forces so easily set going for gain, and no effort made in any direction to restore the waste places.

Reaching from the Ford County to the LaSalle County line, a distance of nearly sixty miles, stretches the Vermilion river timber line from one-quarter to two miles wide—once a magnificent forest all the way—deducting therefrom the surface of the river. This immense timber tract has been invaded extensively during the past twenty-five years by the constant pressure of farms into the river bottoms, the rich warm soil making it profitable to take chances on high water, as three crops out of five will more than equal in yield the ordinary five crops on the prairie farms. Nearly one-half of this timber bottom land has been brought under the plow, and every year adds to the farm area. As the plow comes in the timber goes out, and it is now no uncommon sight to see corn growing right on the banks of the river, where grew a margin fringe of stately elms, oaks, walnuts and maples but a few years ago.

CHAPTER II.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONTED THE EARLY HOME-SEEKER—METHODS OF BUILDING THE PIONEER CABIN—GOING TO MILL—HARDSHIPS AND DANGERS ENCOUNTERED BY THE PIONEERS—LIST OF FIRST SETTLERS BY TOWNSHIPS—JEREMIAH COOPER'S REMINISCENCES—EARLY AMUSEMENTS AND CHURCH MEETINGS.

When the pioneer farmer and home-seeker arrived in this county to "spy out the land" and select a place to make his future home, his first thought was to provide a shelter for his family and his team. He found along the streams an

abundance of good hardwood timber, such as black and white walnut, white, red and burr oak, ash, elm, hickory, hackberry, wild cherry, etc., but no sawmill to convert this timber into lumber for building purposes. The early settler, however, usually came prepared to meet just such an emergency and was equal to the occasion. A hand-ax, a broad-ax, a cross-cut saw, hand-saw, an auger, adze, draw-shave, a frow and two or three iron wedges were the tools necessary for the construction of a comfortable log cabin. With a team and his outfit, which was sufficient for building purposes for a whole neighborhood, the pioneer farmer would begin the construction of his house and stables. Having selected the spot upon which to build his cabin, and determined the size he wished to make it, he would go into the timber and select a sufficient number of trees of the proper size, cut and with his team drag the logs to the place determined upon for the building. When he had enough logs on the ground he would cut them the proper length, notch the ends and place them around the spot where the house was to stand. Then, with the assistance of a few neighbors, the logs were soon put together in the shape of a house or log cabin. The rafters to support the roof were logs or poles, six to seven inches in diameter at the butt and laid lengthwise of the building and pinned with wooden pins, to the logs forming the gable ends, thus supporting the gables in place as well as forming rafters for the clapboard roof. The clapboards that were then in general use for making cabin roofs were made from logs cut in two and a half and three feet lengths from large straight-grained white or burr oak trees; and it required an experienced woodman to select trees that could easily be worked up into good clapboards. The logs were split into bolts with a maul and iron wedges, and with a mallet and frow soon worked up into clapboards that would make a roof as near watertight as a good shingle roof. After the first course of clap boards had been carefully laid, a pole was placed over the lower end of the course and securely pinned with inch wooden pins to the lower rafter supporting the clapboards. After the second course had been laid, lapping the first course eight to twelve inches, another pole was laid on immediately over the second rafter and held in place by three short sticks of wood with the lower ends resting against the first pole. In this manner the entire roof was laid and secured in position without the use of a hammer or nail and did good

service for many years. The floors of these cabins were usually made of puncheons resting upon heavy sleepers made of logs, and fastened to the sleepers with wooden pins and then dressed down smooth with the adze. The door, window and fireplace openings were cut out after the cabin logs were in place. The jambs were made from straight grained split timber, dressed down straight with an adze and pinned to the ends of the logs where they had been cut out. The door was made of split slabs of timber and was hung on hinges made of oak or hickory wood. The fireplace was made large enough to take in four to six foot wood, was built of rock, with common clay for mortar, up about five or six feet high, or above the opening cut in the wall, and from there up as high as desired with split sticks about the size of lath, plastered outside and in with clay. The sash and window glass were about the only articles in the entire building not found or made upon the land. These were usually procured in Ottawa or Peoria, and came up the river from St. Louis by boat. The writer of this sketch lived in this county during the years 1847-1848 in a double log cabin built as above described, that did not contain an ounce of hardware in its entire construction, and it was not an uncomfortable habitation.

Stables for the horses were built of logs, as were the cabins, but with roofs thatched with slough grass. This slough grass grew six to seven feet high, and made a splendid roof for stables, cribs and sheds, as well as for "topping" off grain and hay stacks.

HARDSHIPS AND DANGERS.

The many hardships experienced and difficulties met and overcome by the early settlers of Livingston County were, perhaps, no greater than those endured by all pioneers in a new country; and while raids and massacres by Indians were not feared, there were other foes to life and property that had to be reckoned with and combated and subdued, that were as troublesome and dangerous as Indians ever were. Every new settler in this county from the earliest period until as late as 1850, and a great many who located on our prairies after 1850, had to endure a siege of fever and ague, a malarial disease that was, of itself, rarely fatal, but fever and ague victims became so emaciated and weakened that they were easy prey to other more dangerous diseases that often followed. Another

disease that the early settler was subject to, and which was more dreaded than fever and ague, because it so often proved incurable, was known as milk sickness. It was supposed that cows pasturing on the river bottom lands ate a certain noxious weed that poisoned the milk; and as milk has always been a staple article of food and drink, all the early settlers were subject to attacks of milk sickness, and many deaths resulted from this disease.

Besides suffering from the diseases above mentioned, which are rarely heard of to-day, the early settler had other foes to contend with that were a great menace to property. Prairie and timber wolves abounded all over the country during the early history of the county, and often made havoc among the many flocks of sheep and other stock. The larger grey or timber wolves would kill young calves and kill and carry off small pigs. For the protection of their stock as well as for procuring game for food, the early settlers all kept good rifles and they knew how to use them. They were a race of sharpshooters. Another great danger to the pioneer was the fearful grass fires that would sweep the prairies every fall, destroying everything in their path. Fences, houses, and sometimes live stock were consumed by these resistless flames. The prairies during the early settlement of the county were literally alive with deer and prairie chickens. So numerous were the deer, that they would enter the farmers' fields by hundreds during the winter months, and eat and destroy great quantities of corn that still remained ungathered in the field. The corn at that time, however, was hardly worth the gathering, and the farmer would get even by supplying his family with good fat venison whenever he wanted it, and by decorating his fence with deer skins, which always found a ready market when the peddlers made their regular rounds through the county.

And still another nuisance, and quite a loss, that the pioneer farmer had to put up with, was from the innumerable numbers of prairie chickens that would daily visit the wheat and corn fields after the crops had ripened; and had the grain been worth one-fifth the price received for it now, the money loss from the depredations of deer and prairie chickens would have been enormous. As late as 1848 and 1849, in the late fall and winter months, the writer of these reminiscences has often seen herds of twenty to fifty deer leave the corn-field one-half mile east of



Emma E. Baumann,

Pontiac and cross what is now East Howard street, and run north into what was then a vast, uncultivated and unfenced prairie. And during the same years, the prairie chickens would come to the corn fields along the timber in such great numbers that about or just after sunset, when they would fly from the fields to their roosting places in the tall prairie grass, the rustling of their wings would sound like distant thunder.

After the completion of the Chicago & Alton Railroad in 1854, and a market was found for the deer and prairie chickens, local hunters and sportsmen from St. Louis, Chicago and other large cities flocked to this county and soon exterminated the deer and left but few prairie chickens where there had been hundreds of thousands a few years before. From the earliest history of Livingston county until 1850, this certainly was a "hunters' paradise." In addition to the deer and prairie chickens on the prairie, wild ducks and geese in the streams and ponds, wild turkeys, quail, squirrels and rabbits were very plentiful in the timber.

In the early settlement of Livingston county, the farmers all located in and along near the timber and near the streams of water. This was done for several reasons. Fuel and fencing were indispensable, and wood was the only fuel to be had. Coal had not yet been discovered in the county. Log houses and stables had to be built, and rails made to fence the fields, as all stock was permitted to run at large—hence the necessity of all early settlers owning timber land. Some of the first farms cultivated in the county were lands cleared up in the timber. Several farms were located in the timber south east of Pontiac. During the years from 1840 to 1848 these farms were abandoned, so far as cultivation was concerned, and wild blackberries and raspberries grew up and covered the land that had been denuded of timber and underbrush. These abandoned farms that have not again been brought under cultivation or been converted into pasture lands, now show no indication of ever having been cultivated, as they are again covered with large trees. The pioneer farmers knew that the prairie lands were as fertile as the timber lands, but the great danger from prairie fires, the desire to be located near their fuel supply, and to get the friendly shelter of the trees from the severe winter winds, prompted them to locate near and in the timber. When the timber

lands had all been entered and were owned by individuals, and the settlers increased in numbers so that they were able to protect themselves from the devastating fires that annually swept the prairies, then they began to venture farther out on the rich prairie lands to make their farms and abandoned their fields in the timber.

All early settlers found it necessary to keep flocks of sheep, as the farmers' wives and daughters had to spin the wool, knit the socks and stockings and weave the cloth from which the winter clothing was made for the entire family. The spinning wheel and the loom were just as common and necessary articles in the pioneer farmer's house during the years of 1835 and 1850 as the range and heating stove or furnace are in a modern farmer's house to-day.

GOING TO MILL.

One of the greatest inconveniences the first settlers of this county had to contend with was the long distance they had to go to mill and market. Up to the year 1851, there was not a grist mill in Livingston County, and the farmers had to go to Ottawa, or rather Dayton, a few miles beyond Ottawa, to get their corn and wheat ground. There was also a woolen mill at Dayton where the farmers could take their wool and have it scoured and carded into rolls ready for the spinning wheel. Ottawa was at the head of navigation on the Illinois river, and was the market town for Livingston County farmers. There they disposed of such produce as they had to sell, or rather exchanged their produce, peltry, deer skins, etc., for such necessary articles as salt, sugar and coffee; and when they went to mill they usually loaded their wagons with all they could carry, going and coming, in addition to their regular grist. Four days, and sometimes five, were required to make the round trip, and these journeys had to be made at least twice a year—once in the summer or early fall, and once about the holidays. In the early spring, and sometimes during the late fall months, the roads leading from Livingston County to Ottawa were impassable for loaded teams, or the streams not fordable. When such conditions prevailed, the neighborhood that ran short of breadstuff was, to say the least, unfortunate, and resort had to be made to graters, a crude utensil made of a piece of perforated tin about 12 inches long and 8 or 10 inches wide, curved like a nutmeg grater, and nailed to a board. In 1848, the

writer of this sketch, then a small boy, often operated such a device to provide material for the "staff of life," and it would surprise the uninitiated to see how quickly an ear of corn can be reduced to meal by this primitive process and sufficient corn meal made for the dinner of an ordinary family.

When a farmer found it would soon be necessary for him to "go to mill," the neighbors were duly informed of the fact, and he would have orders for all the necessities and notions he could possibly carry on his return trip, such necessities as tobacco (always tobacco), powder and lead, and quite often a gallon or more "snake bite medicine," for the men; and for the women, knitting needles, buttons, hooks and eyes, needles and thread, dye stuffs, such as madder and indigo, and some simple medical remedies. The farmer usually had ample time to dispose of his produce, purchase his supplies and do the shopping for his neighbors while waiting for his grist to be ground and his wool scoured and carded. He was lucky indeed if he did not have to wait a day or more for his turn at the mill.

FIRST SETTLER IN EACH TOWNSHIP.

During the present rapid growth and development of Livingston County, it is interesting to refer to the past and see at what a comparatively recent period the first settler located in each of the different townships and also to preserve the name of the pioneers, but very few of whom are still living. To this end we give below the name of the first settler in each township in the county and the time at which he located:

1830	Belle Prairie.....	Valentine M. Darnall
1830	Avoca.....	Isaac Jourdan
1830	Rooks Creek.....	Frederick Rook
1831	Indian Grove.....	Joseph Moore
1832	Chatsworth.....	Franklin Oliver
1832	Reading.....	Jacob Moon
1832	Newtown.....	Emsley Pope
1833	Amity.....	Thomas Reynolds
1833	Owego.....	Daniel Rockwood
1834	Eppards Point.....	John Eppard
1835	Esmen.....	John Chews
1835	Sunbury.....	Andrew Sprague
1836	Forrest.....	Charles Jones
1837	Nevada.....	James Funk
1837	Pontiac.....	Henry Weed
1838	Long Point.....	Andrew McDowell
1843	Pleasant Ridge.....	Nathan Townsend
1845	Saunemin.....	David Crippliver

1850	Round Grove.....	John Currier
1853	Odell.....	William H. Odell
1854	Broughton.....	William Broughton
1854	Dwight.....	John Conant
1855	Pike.....	Alonzo Huntoon
1855	Nebraska.....	Isaac Sheets
1855	Sullivan.....	Alexander Harbison
1855	Germanville.....	Thomas Y. Brown
1856	Union.....	John Harbison
1857	Waldo.....	James McFadden
1858	Charlotte....	William and Patrick Monahan
1863	Fayette.....	Reese Morgan

OLDEST CONTINUOUS RESIDENT.

Jeremiah F. Cooper of Fairbury, claims to be the oldest resident of Livingston County now living—not in point of age, for Mr. Cooper is but 76 years old, but in point of years of continuous residence in the county. Mr. Cooper was born in Overton County, Tennessee, October 29, 1832, and two years later, in 1834, he came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cooper, to Belle Prairie Township, locating on section 5, his parents being among the second settlers in that township. Mr. Cooper resided in that township until 1864, when he moved to Indian Grove Township. He was married to Miss Louisa Davis, January 19, 1854. Mrs. Cooper died January 17, 1906. Mr. Cooper moved to Fairbury in March, 1907, and has since remarried.

Mr. Cooper talks very interestingly of the early days in that locality. He says there were but four other families there in his early recollection. They lived at the "Grove," and were Uncle Barney Phillips and family, Uncle Martin Darnall and family, who was also the first white settler, James Spence and brothers and Richard Moore and family. They lived in log cabins through which the snow drifted in the winter season. The food was home-made and jeans furnished the only outside wearing apparel, while underclothing, overcoats and overshoes were unknown. Despite this fact, there was not much sickness, a little ague now and then, but doctors and medicines were almost unknown. Bloomington, Ottawa and Chicago were the trading points. A trip to one of these points was made about once a year, chiefly for the purpose of procuring salt. Mr. Cooper made a trip to Chicago with his father in 1847. That city looked pretty big to him at that time and it was a great trading point. There were no railroads there then. The chief hotels were the Sherman House, which

stood then on its present site, and the American Temperance House. Mr. Cooper and his father camped on the streets in their covered wagon, as did hundreds of others who were trading in Chicago. There were but few stores in Bloomington. Ottawa and Pontiac were not started until 1837, when the county was organized. Mr. Cooper's father was on the first jury drawn in this county, and they held their deliberations on a saw log out of doors.

AMUSEMENTS.—A popular amusement in the early days was to assemble the community for a "grand circular hunt." Having selected the territory, which embraced as large a tract as the number of hunters could command, they placed themselves in a circle, on the outside, and drove the game toward a common center. The game thus encircled consisted mainly of wolves and deer, which were always captured or killed in great numbers. The state paid a bounty for wolf scalps in the early days, and this was a source of revenue to the settlers. There were deer in this county up to 1865. An occasional stray wolf is found now or then, but the foxes are still said to be plentiful in some of the townships north of the Vermillion river.

EARLY CHURCH MEETINGS.—It was several years before the pioneers erected a church edifice in their various settlements. For many miles around the community would assemble on a Sunday at the cabins of some of the neighbors. In the fall of the year, the pioneers would yoke up their ox-teams and go south over to Mackinaw, in McLean County, to attend camp meeting. This was considered the event of the year, and was eagerly anticipated by the younger people, who had not many opportunities of enjoying each other's society and forming new acquaintances.

CHAPTER III.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

EARLY FARMING—PIONEER METHODS—CHICAGO THE GRAIN MARKET—BENEFITS OF DRAINAGE—FERTILITY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY LANDS—PRIMITIVE FARMING IMPLEMENTS—IMPROVEMENTS BROUGHT IN FIFTY YEARS—CUTTING AND THRESHING GRAIN—A PIONEER PLOW FACTORY—FENCES.

Farming in the early days was vastly different from that of the present time. There were no reapers, mowers, cornplanters, sulky plows or harrows. The breaking plows of the pioneers were long and strong affairs, with a capacious mold-board, and required two to three yoke of oxen to draw them through the tough soil. As soon as the field had been turned in this way, "sod corn," as it was called, was planted. The ground was first "marked out" both ways, one way with a small eight-inch mold-board plow, and the other by a marker made of a four by four scantling—if they had one. The marker had attached to it a pair of shafts, and a bowed sapling for a handle. After marking, the children would drop the corn. The corn was taken from little tin pails or baskets held in the hand, or buttoned into the clothing in front, or fastened to a belt around the waist. The covering was done with a hoe, and was a tedious job compared to our present plan, and the harvesting and securing of the small grain was even more tedious.

MARKETING GRAIN IN CHICAGO.

In the early times, the settlers hauled wheat to Chicago, often taking ten days to make the return trip, and they congratulated themselves if they were so fortunate as to receive 50 cents a bushel for it. That city had not yet risen from the bogs and marshes of Lake Michigan, and the great grain market was not what it is today. Some farmers would join in a company, and, with their wagons loaded with wheat, drive through to Chicago, camping out at nights, as their load of wheat would hardly have justified the paying of the tavern bill. There was at that time not even an Indian trail leading to Chicago, but those pioneers took their way over the unbroken prairie, guided by signs and indications which never led them astray. They rarely made more than two such trips a year.

BENEFITS OF FARM DRAINAGE.

The years 1876 and 1877 were wet ones in this county, and thousands of acres of the low lands were untillable in consequence. In many places, water stood in the ponds nearly the whole year, thus robbing the farmer of the use of many acres of the best producing land on his farm. About this time, farmers and land-owners were beginning to learn that, by systematic drainage, their lowest lands could be utilized as well as the highest, and as much, and perhaps more, grain

could be raised on an acre of the "swamp" well drained, than on the best upland on the farm. The finest illustration seen at that time of the benefits of drainage was on the 900-acre farm, known as the Marsh farm, situated west of Fairbury. The method adopted on this farm, as well as other farms in this vicinity, was as follows: There was a large ditch cut through the lowest part of this farm, into which smaller ditches led, that were piped with fencing boards nailed together and placed in the bottom in the shape of an inverted V. Upon these boards hay, straw or long grass was thrown, after which the earth was filled in. The water was carried off in the main ditch through the farm and finally found an outlet in the Vermillion river. There was of this system of drainage on this farm about 1,000 rods, which cost 35 cents per rod. The present mode of tiling in the county was not commenced until 1878, thirty years ago, but has been pushed forward rapidly until there are now in the county but few, if any, farms not thoroughly drained.

FERTILITY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY LANDS.

At the time Illinois was admitted into the Union, the lands of what now constitutes Livingston County were government lands, subject to entry by claimants or "squatters" when the government land office was established at Danville. The prairies of this county were known to be as fertile as any land in the state, and the soil as good and productive as that of McLean, Peoria or LaSalle Counties, but the conformation of the country is different. The land is not so "rolling" or so well drained naturally as the land in McLean, Peoria and LaSalle is. A large portion of Livingston County is so flat and level that it was classed as swamp or overflowed land, too wet for cultivation. For this reason, Livingston County was not settled up as early or as rapidly as adjoining counties that are better drained naturally, or had navigable streams that afforded cheap transportation for produce and merchandise. While there was a large area of fine, tillable land in the county open for settlement from 1835 to 1855, the larger portion was considered as being better adapted for grazing purposes than for cultivation as farms. Since the general introduction of tile drainage by the farmers of this county, these flat, swampy lands have been thoroughly drained, and are now the richest and most productive corn lands in the State, and are selling at \$150 to \$200 per acre. As late as 1850

to 1855, these swamp lands could not be given away, as they were not considered as being worth the taxes.

The wonderful fertility of the soil of Livingston County is not surpassed by the favored delta of the Nile. There are farms in this county that have been under constant cultivation for the past seventy years without any more fertilization than the scant supply of barnyard manure produced on the place, that last season (1908) produced 50 bushels of corn per acre. The Rollins' farm, for one, two miles east of Pontiac, has been under cultivation for fully seventy years, and seems to be about as productive as it was in 1838, when the wild prairie sod was first turned under, and it has had but little artificial fertilization. The Daniel Rockwood farm, now the Bruer place, has been under cultivation three-quarters of a century and produces as large crops as it ever did. There are many old farms up and down the Vermillion river and around Indian Grove, that have been under cultivation seventy to seventy-five years but show no loss of fertility.

PRIMITIVE IMPLEMENTS OF AGRICULTURE.

Some of the implements of agriculture used in the early times, were as primitive as the methods of education. At first, it was not supposed that the vast prairies would ever be utilized. The little bar-share plow, with the wooden mold-board, in common use in the Eastern States, was not to be thought of to turn over the prairie sod, matted thick with grass roots as hard almost as hickory withes. But soon the inventive genius of the Yankee supplied an article with which most of these plains have been brought under cultivation. The original "sod plow" is seen no more, as it has long since outlived its usefulness. It consisted of a large share, cutting a furrow of two feet in width, with iron bars for a mold-board. The beam of the machine was fifteen feet in length. No handles were needed, though sometimes they were attached, but were used only for the purpose of starting or throwing it out of the ground. To this immense plow was hitched five to eight yokes of oxen. The breaking was usually done late in the spring and, with the turning of the sod, was deposited seed, which produced an inferior crop of corn the first year, which grew and ripened without further attention. Hay was cut with cradles. These ancient land-marks have all passed away, and but few who wielded them.



MR. AND MRS. LOUIS R. BEAMAN

still remain to tell us the story of these and the many other peculiar institutions of the olden time. Here and there is seen a whitened head, here and there we behold a tottering frame, and ere long they, too, will have passed from earth, and their places will be filled by the more modern style of humanity.

The past fifty years has witnessed some wonderful improvements in the construction and operation of farm machinery in this country, and the decided changes in the ideas that prevailed a half century ago respecting the management and control of the various operations connected with the planting, cultivating and harvesting of the great crops of the different kinds of grain, are no less noteworthy.

Perhaps the most noticeable improvement along these lines has been made in the matter of planting, harvesting and threshing implements. The improvements in cultivating implements, however, have also been decidedly manifest and worthy of due notice. The complicated and highly improved self-binders and threshers as they exist today, are vastly different from the first machines that were devised for that purpose. In fact, if a man who had been accustomed to using one of the latest of these machines, had never used or seen one of the first ones, he would hardly be able to tell for what use it was intended.

CUTTING AND THRESHING THE GRAIN.

The grain was cut with the old straight-handled cradle, and raked into bundles with a hand rake. It was then loaded on wagons and taken to the barn. The most primitive means of threshing small grain was to pound it out with a flail. The flail was a very simple instrument, consisting of two pieces of wood, one about eighteen inches in length the other about 4 feet long, each with a hole bored through one end, and the two lashed together by having a piece of rawhide leather pass through the holes in each piece and tied. The short piece was about two inches thick at the end opposite the one which had the hole bored through, rounded like a club and tapering slightly from the other end, the long piece being similar in shape to a modern pitchfork handle. The bundles of wheat or rye, etc., were laid down in a row upon the threshing floor or placed prepared for threshing out the grain, with the heads of the grain all in one direction. The threshers stood at one end of the room and swung

the flail over so that the club or short piece of the flail came down upon the heads of the grain with great force. About a dozen or more bundles were placed upon the floor at a time, the number of bundles threshed at one time depending on the size of the threshing floor. This means of threshing grain was only used to very limited extent in this locality and in very early times and only by men who had a small quantity of grain to thresh. Those who raised larger crops of small grain made a larger threshing floor and tramped out their grain with horses.

A PIONEER PLOW FACTORY.

With the crude implements used by the pioneer farmers of Livingston County, the cultivation of the rich black soil was an exhaustive and discouraging occupation. The polished steel moldboard plow had not yet been invented, and the disc, so generally used now, had not been dreamed of. The plows used prior to 1847 had steel or cast iron shares and wooden moldboards, and the man behind the plow had to carry a paddle and every few minutes was compelled to stop his team and dig the dirt from the share and moldboard before the plow would enter the soil. Every farmer knows what it means to undertake to plow a field with a plow that will not scour. In the spring of 1847 there was not a plow in Livingston County that would scour in the black prairie soil of this state; and at that time Henry Jones, a pioneer, a blacksmith and plow maker, living two miles east of Pontiac, in a conversation with Phillip Rollins, a pioneer farmer, declared that he could make a plow that would scour in any field in the state. Rollins assured Jones that if he could do so it would double the value of every acre of land susceptible of cultivation in Livingston County. Jones went to Ottawa, procured the steel and made two plows. After cutting and shaping the shares and moldboards, and grinding them down on a grindstone as smooth as possible, the different parts were put together, and as a finishing touch the plows were run for a half day in a hard beaten strip of road northwest of the Rollins' homestead, two miles east of Pontiac. The hard clay soil put a fine polish on the steel share and moldboard, and when tried in the black soil of the field the plows scoured and proved a great success.

In January, 1848, Jones went to Chicago with five sled loads of dressed hogs—about 10,000

pounds. After leaving the Rollins farm, the party took a northeasterly course across the prairie. The snow was six to eight inches deep, with just enough crust to keep it from drifting. For the greater part of the way there was not the sign of a road. They encountered no fences or settlements until they reached the Kankakee river, which was crossed on the ice. The next farms and fences to obstruct their way were encountered east of Joliet. From that on into Chicago the party had a well beaten road to follow. Arriving in Chicago the pork was soon disposed of and the proceeds invested principally in material for making steel moldboard plows. In February, 1848, Jones began the manufacture of plows warranted to scour in any soil in Livingston County, and continued making them until the spring of 1849, when he quit the business to pilot a party of gold-seekers to California.

FENCES AND FENCING.

The early settlers of this county and state, as a matter of course, had to fence their fields against the depredations of their own as well as their neighbors' stock. First, the brush fence was quite common where the farms were made by clearing up the timber land, but later the stake-and-rider fence was generally used. These fences were made of rails, usually ten feet long, built in a zig-zag fashion, five and six rails high. At the angles, or where the rails lapped, stakes were placed in the ground on each side and two to three feet from the bottom rail, leaning against the top rail and forming a cross or crotch in which the last rail, or rider, was laid. The stakes braced the fence, and the rider held the stakes firmly in place. This made a very strong and durable fence, "hog-tight," and with strength to turn or hold the most breachy cattle and horses that ran at large. Walnut, oak, hickory and ash made the best rails, while the honey locust was generally used for stakes. Black walnut was the favorite tree for rails, because it was durable and split easily. Millions of feet of the finest black walnut timber that ever grew, that would sell today for \$40 per thousand for veneering purposes and for gunstock material for the armies of the world, were cut and split up into fence rails to fence Livingston County farms.

After the prairie lands began to attract the attention of homeseekers, timber became too valuable to be cut up and split into rails for fencing,

and farmers began to look for other and less expensive material for enclosing their fields and other improvements. For several years after 1853, there was a craze for osage orange hedge, and thousands of miles of this fence was set out on the farms. Hedge fence proved unsatisfactory for several reasons. It required much attention in resetting plants that died out, patching up with poles, old rails and boards where it burned out, trimming, etc. It would catch and hold all the weeds, leaves, and corn blades that the strong winds would bring in contact with it, and a spark of fire from burning corn stalks or a pipe or any other source would soon destroy rods of it; but the greatest objection to osage hedge as a farm fence was that it would sap the moisture or fertility for a rod or more in width from the soil along its entire length, and rendered that much otherwise valuable land entirely worthless. This made osage orange hedge fence intolerable to the enterprising farmer, and it has nearly all been grubbed out or pulled up by the mile with traction engines and burned.

After the completion of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, pine boards, with cedar posts, were used extensively for fencing. This made a good though expensive fence, and when it began to be generally used all over the broad prairies of the west, the price of lumber began to advance, and the cost of pine boards and cedar posts became so high as to be almost prohibitive, and the fence question became a burden to the farmer. Barbed wire for fencing was then introduced, and to a great extent was used all over the country. This, also, made a good fence but, like pine boards, was expensive, and proved quite dangerous to stock where used for fencing pasture lands, and a wire fence without the dangerous barbs was substituted and is still used.

When the county had become pretty well settled up, the greater portion of tillable land brought under cultivation and the "man with the hoe" largely in the majority, more attention was paid to the production of grain and less to raising stock. The farmers then came to the conclusion that it would be cheaper to fence their stock than to fence their fields of grain, and begun to discuss and agitate the question of a "no fence" law. In the winter of 1866-67 a "no fence" law was passed by the Legislature at Springfield, and has been in operation since that time. This law prevents stock running at large and effectually settled the fence question to the

great advantage of the agricultural interests of the state.

CHAPTER IV.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

AREA AND DATE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY—SET APART FROM M'LEAN AND LASALLE COUNTIES IN 1837—LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT AT PONTIAC—FIRST ELECTION OF COUNTY OFFICERS—ORGANIZATION OF PRECINCTS—GRAND AND PETIT JURIES—FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AND VOTE FOR LOCAL AND STATE OFFICERS—SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS AND LIST OF CANDIDATES.

Livingston County contains 1,026 square miles of territory. It was formed by act of Legislature, February 27, 1837, out of McLean and LaSalle counties. In size, it is the fourth county in the state, being exceeded only by La Salle, McLean and Iroquois. Some of the founders of Bloomington in McLean county, figured considerably in getting the boundaries fixed, as their object was to divide the prairie nearly equally between the Mackinaw and Vermilion rivers, and their branches, and it cannot be denied that McLean county secured the larger share of the fine district south of the Vermilion river. The territory which is now a part of Livingston County, was in the first division of the state a portion of Cook county. After that it became a portion of Vermilion county and hence the name of the river which flows through it. Its name was suggested by Jesse W. Fell after Edward Livingston, a member of one of the prominent Livingston families of New York state, in consequence of his being the reputed author of President Jackson's famous proclamation to the South Carolina nullifiers, in their first unsuccessful attempt to disrupt the Union.

The law directed that the first election for county officers be held, (as was also the first session of the court), at the house of Andrew McMillan, until the county commissioners should provide a more suitable place. The entire population of the county at that time did not exceed 450 inhabitants,—men, women and children.

In the act of organization, Thompson S. Flint,

of Tazewell county; William B. Peck, of Will county, and James W. Piatt, of Macon county, were appointed commissioners to locate the permanent seat of justice. These commissioners met at the home of Mr. McMillan, on the Vermilion river, about four miles northwest of where Pontiac is now located, on the first Monday in June, 1837, for the purpose of arranging for the location. The county seat was to be located on government ground, or if upon private ground, then the owners of the same should be required to donate twenty acres or the sum of \$3,000, the proceeds of the land, or the money in lieu thereof, to be used in erecting county buildings. These gentlemen were assisted by several of the citizens who were either interested as speculators, or to point out the advantages of various crossings or fords on the Vermilion river. And, after making satisfactory examinations, they reported in favor of the present site of Pontiac, or rather on the southeast quarter of section 22, with the express understanding that the provisions of the law should be complied with, which were, among other matters, that a donation of \$3,000 should be made by the owners of the land, which, however, it appears should be arranged by the county commissioners' court.

The land upon which the court house was to be erected was owned by Henry Weed, Lucius Young and Seth M. Young, and besides the donation of \$3,000, they also agreed to donate a block of land 200 feet square on which to put the court house; also a tract of one acre, not more than twenty rods from the square, on which a jail was to be built and for a stray-pen lot; and they also agreed to build a wagon bridge with suitable capacity across the Vermilion river. They gave bond signed by themselves as principals, and C. H. Perry, James McKee and Jesse W. Fell as sureties.

The law authorized an election to be held at the home of Andrew McMillan on the second Monday in May, 1837, for sheriff, coroner, recorder, county surveyor and three county commissioners, but the returns show that the election was held by precincts (Pontiac, Indian Grove, etc.), on June 6, 1837, and the total vote as shown by the records is 110.

The election was held and officers duly elected, as follows: Sheriff, Joseph Reynolds; county commissioners, Robert Breckenridge, Jonathan Moore and Daniel Rockwood. The first clerk

was Abraham W. Beard, who was appointed by said commissioners, and his bond was signed by James Holman and Robert Recob as sureties. The court also appointed John Recob as treasurer. From the records in the county court, we find that the first county commissioners' court was held at the home of Mr. McMillan on May 18, 1837. The reason of the discrepancy between the date of the election and the date of the holding of the commissioners' court, is not clearly shown by the returns. The county commissioners held their meetings at the home of Mr. McMillan for several years.

At a special call of the county commissioners' court held at the dwelling house of Andrew McMillan on the 18th day of May, 1837, it was ordered that this county be divided into election precincts, three in number; also, that all the portion of country west of the old county line, commencing at the range line between sections 27 and 28, thence east to the range line between sections 5 and 6, thence north to the county line, be designated or known by the name of Bayou precinct; ordered by said court, that all elections to be held in said precinct be opened and held at the dwelling house of Alexander W. Breckenridge; ordered that Jacob Dickson, James Walker and Albert Moon be appointed judges of election in and for said precinct.

Ordered that all that portion of the county south of the old county line, including Eppards Point, also all the settlement on the west side of the river as high up as said river as to the mouth of the little Vermillion and extending up the little Vermillion as far as to include Isaac Burgitt, also including all the east side of the big Vermillion and the Five Mile Grove, to be known by the name of Center precinct. Ordered that the dwelling home of Isaac Whicher be the place to open and hold elections for said Center precinct. James Holman, Matthias B. Miller and James C. Milan were appointed to serve as judges in and for said Center precinct.

Ordered that all the country south of the above mentioned precinct to the county line, including the Indian Grove, constitute the third, which is called the Indian Grove precinct; ordered that A. B. Phillips, at the lower end of Indian Grove, be the proper place for holding elections for said precinct; ordered that Robert Smith, Nicholas Hefner and John Darnall be appointed judges of election in and for said precinct.

Taxable Property.—All horses over three years

old, all horned cattle over three years old, all sheep over one year old, all wagons, carriages, clocks, watches, jacks, jennies, mules, etc., are considered by the court of commissioners as being taxable property upon which there shall be a tax cost of one-half per cent.

Time of Holding Meetings.—Ordered by the County Commissioners' Court that the judges of the several precincts shall open and hold an election in their respective precincts on Saturday, the 24th day of June next, for the election of justices of the peace and constables.

The commissioners at their June term, 1837, decided that "in accordance with the act of the Legislature passed February 27, 1837, the county seat should be located on the southeast quarter of section 22, town 28 north, of range 5, east, on condition that Messrs. Weed and Youngs should pay \$3,000 into the county treasury, donate a square for a court house, 200 feet square, also a tract for jail, build a bridge across the Vermillion, etc. After this, the contract for building the court house was let.

At the March term of the county court held March 5th, 1838, the first grand and petit jury for Livingston County was ordered.

The names of the grand jurors are as follows: Martin Darnall, Jeremiah Travis, Isaac Wilson, Nathan Popejoy, James Spence, James Weed, Isaac Burgitt, Francis J. Moore, Burnett Miller, Samuel Boyer, William G. Hubbard, A. W. Breckenridge, James McMillan, Garrett M. Blue, Mirack D. Edgington, Jacob Moon, Samuel Norton, James Campbell, John S. Chew, Daniel Barrackman, Emsley Pope, James Dickinson and Amos Lundy.

The petit jurors were as follows: Hugh Steers, Moses Allen, Richard Moore, William S. Jones, W. Y. Donoho, William Springer, Samuel Bruce, William K. Brown, Charles Brooks, Richard Ball, John Miller, Thomas Hudgin, Caleb Mason, Isaac Whicher, Elias Brock, Myron Ames, Truman Rutherford, Isaac Hayes, Philip Deane, Thomas N. Reynolds, Elsey Downing and Thomas Moorehead.

The records show that no term of court was held in October of this year, and it is doubtful if either of these juries performed any duties. So far as we have been able to ascertain, none of the above parties are now alive.

The first term of circuit court was held October 21, 1839, in the log house erected in 1832, on the banks of the Vermillion river, just east of the line

of the town of Pontiac, in what was then, and for several years after, known as the Weed residence, and was held by Judge Samuel H. Treat. The bar was composed of David B. Campbell, state's attorney; David Davis and George F. Markley. The court appointed Mr. Campbell as clerk pro tem, Henry Weed, the clerk-elect having returned to New York state. Nicholas Hefner was sheriff. The records of the court show that no jury had been summoned, and it appears that all the cases had been tried by the judge. There were twenty-eight cases on the docket, a large number for the first court, although it is a fact that these had been "brewing" quite a long while.

At the time the county was organized, it was placed in the First circuit, but the judge sitting in that circuit did not have time to come to Pontiac; no law had been passed fixing the time for holding circuit court in this county, and the clerk had moved out of the state. By the act of 1839, we were placed in the Eighth circuit, and October fixed for the time of holding court.

At the old settlers' meeting held at Fairbury in 1877, Judge W. G. McDowell, the historian, said "that the first regular term of circuit court was held in the spring of 1840, in the Weed log house, and that the jury held its deliberations on a lot of saw-logs which lay on the banks of the river." Mr. McDowell further said that "the first trial by jury in the circuit court was between Isaac Wilson and Nathan Popejoy, in which Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas were attorneys, after which they spoke on the political issues of the day. . . . They spoke in the street, or rather open prairie, from the top of a dry-goods box. The late Judge David Davis of Bloomington was also there as one of the prominent attorneys. The judge and all attorneys came across the country from Springfield and Bloomington in buggies and on horseback. Circuit court seldom lasted over one or two days at each term, and yet all the cases were disposed of."

ELECTIONS.

The first general election in the county was the state election, held the first Monday in August, 1838. The vote on county officers was as follows: For County Commissioner: Uriah Springer, 90; Albert Moon, 60; William Popejoy, 59; Robert Breckenridge, 41; Robert Smith, 29. For Sheriff: Nicholas Hefner, 65; Joseph Reynolds, 41. For Coroner: Simeon Mead, 45; Ambrose Sprague, 17. For Clerk: James S. Munson, 58;

Matthias Ross, 34. For Recorder: James S. Munson, 60; Truman Rutherford, 34. For Surveyor: Isaac Whitaker, 59; Franklin Oliver, 41. For Governor: Cyrus Edwards, 45; Thomas Carlin, 59. For Member of Congress: Stephen A. Douglas, 62; J. T. Stuart, 46.

On April 9, 1839, the court appointed the first assessors, one for each precinct—Robert Smith for Indian Grove precinct, Andrew McMillan for Centre, and John Downey for Bayou. The court ordered that 70 cents on each \$100 be levied and collected on certain property, among which appears this item: "Slaves and servants of color." Robert Smith of Indian Grove was also appointed school commissioner.

In August, 1839, at a general election, Lemuel White was elected county commissioner; C. W. Reynolds, recorder and clerk of the county court; Jacob Moon, county treasurer; Isaac Burgit, coroner; Franklin Oliver, surveyor; Truman Rutherford, probate justice of the peace, an office which had jurisdiction of all probate business; W. G. Hubbard and J. C. McMillan, justices of the peace.

By virtue of an act passed March 1, 1839, it was directed that a vote be held in August following, for and against re-locating the county seat, by which it was provided that, if two-thirds of the votes cast were for removal, and a majority were for a removal to any place named, then the county seat should be removed. Sites for a location were offered by Messrs. Rockwood, Hubbard and Weed, at a point four miles up (southeast from Pontiac) the Vermillion river, where fifty acres of land were offered. The vote showed 81 votes were given for and 56 against removing the county seat from Pontiac, and that 78 votes were given for removing to the location offered by these gentlemen. It lacked a few votes of the required two-thirds, though a majority favored Rockwood.

On December 3, 1839, the county commissioners entered into a contract for the erection of a court house, which is given in detail on another page.

The following was the result of the vote of the general election held in August, 1840. There is no record on file of the vote at presidential or congressional election: For state senator, John Moore, 62; David Davis, 38. For representatives, Welcome P. Brown, 62; I. T. Gildersleeve, 61; Asahel Gridley, 38; Isaac Funk, 38; A. R. Dodge, 14; L. W. Leek, 32. For sheriff, Garrett

M. Blue, 66; John Foster, 29. Davis M. Pendell was elected coroner and Nicholas Hefner and Andrew McMillan county commissioners. John W. Reynolds was appointed school commissioner and Robert Smith and John Blue, assessors.

After the census of 1840, showing a population of 759 inhabitants, the state was apportioned for congressional representatives, giving seven representatives instead of three, as heretofore.

In 1841, Daniel Barrackman was elected county commissioner; Samuel Boyer, school commissioner; S. S. Mead, assessor; W. G. McDowell was appointed collector and D. S. Ebersol was appointed clerk of the court. At the election held in 1843, the following vote was cast: For Congress, John Wentworth, 111; Giles Spring, 66. For county commissioner, Charles Jones, 84; Augustus Fellows, 50. For county clerk, D. S. Ebersol, 122; W. K. Brown, 28. For school commissioner, Samuel Boyer, 136. For recorder, D. S. Ebersol, 121; S. C. Ladd, 16. For probate justice, Truman Rutherford, 82; W. K. Brown, 16. For treasurer, Truman Rutherford, 92; Lyman Bergit, 45. For surveyor, Amos Edwards, 67; Orin Phelps, 39; Franklin Oliver, 38. Mr. Ebersol resigned as clerk and recorder in June, 1845, and S. C. Ladd was appointed. This county was in the fourth district, which first elected John Wentworth to congress. He was our representative as long as this county remained in that district. Previous to this, John T. Stuart, of Springfield, had been our representative.

At the special election held in November of this year Andrew McMillan was elected probate justice and also county treasurer and assessor. His opponents were Augustus Fellows and S. S. Mead.

The election in 1844 resulted as follows: For members of congress, John Wentworth, 110; B. S. Morris, 61. For state senator, S. G. Nesbit, 106; G. W. Powers, 66. For representative, James Robinson, 106; E. B. Myers, 63. For county commissioner, Andrew McDowell, 104; Walter Cornell, 65. For sheriff, R. P. Breckenridge, 97; Thomas Sawyer, 71. For coroner, John Blue, 113.

At the presidential election, James K. Polk carried the county by 43 votes, receiving 109 votes to Henry Clay's 66. Not a vote was cast for Birney.

In 1845, Andrew McMillan was appointed to take the census. His returns showed a population in the county of 1,011 inhabitants.

At the election held in August, 1845, Murrell Breckenridge was elected county commissioner, Augustus Fellows as school commissioner, S. C. Ladd as clerk and S. S. Mead as coroner. In December following, Mr. Ladd was elected recorder.

The election held in August, 1846, resulted as follows: For governor, A. C. French, 124; T. M. Kilpatrick, 60. For congress, John Wentworth, 124; John Kerr, 58. For representative, James Robinson, 122; Bissell Chubbuck, 42. R. P. Breckenridge was elected sheriff, Charles Jones, county commissioner and John Blue, coroner.

In 1847, Isaac Hodgson was elected commissioner and S. C. Ladd, clerk.

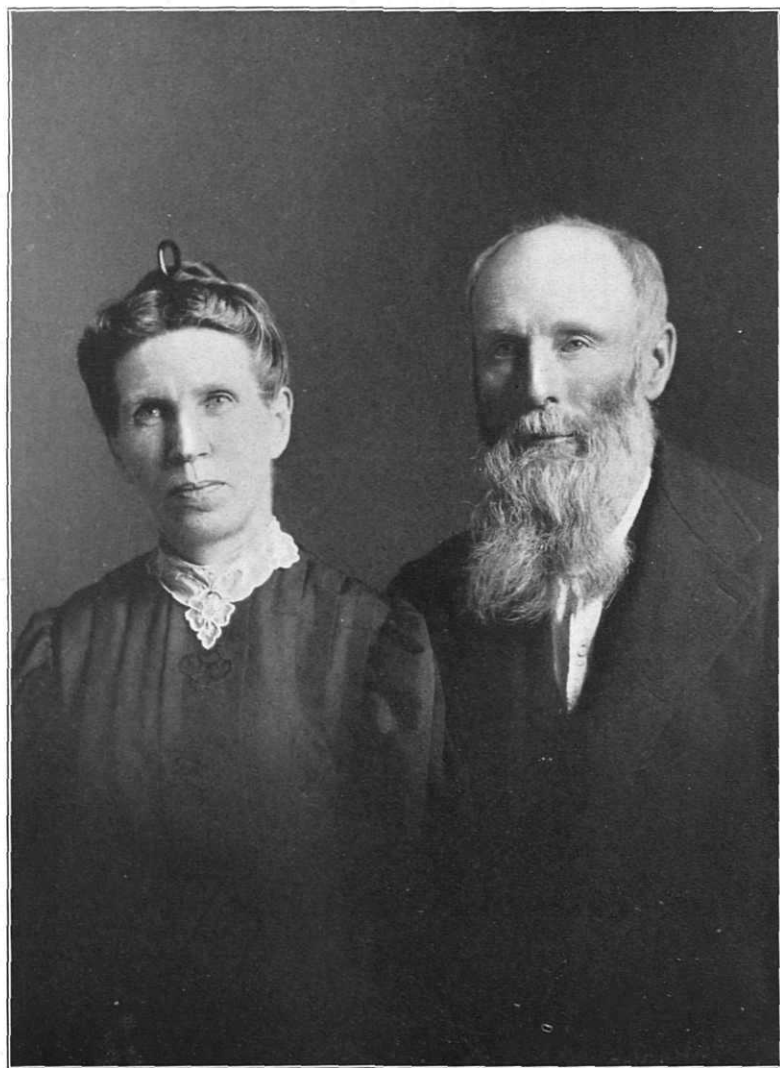
In March, 1848, was held an election to vote upon the new constitution and separate articles. The vote stood: For the constitution, 71; against it, 25. For the separate article in relation to colored people, there were 89 votes for and 12 votes against. For the two mill tax, which was intended to pay off the state debt, long past due, there were 71 votes for and 35 votes against.

The regular election held in August, 1847, resulted as follows: For governor, A. C. French, 135. For congress, John Wentworth, 108; John Y. Scammon, 62. For senator, William Reddick, 131. Murrell Breckenridge was elected sheriff; Henry Jones, county commissioner, and John Blue, coroner.

At the judicial election held in September following, under the new constitution, John D. Catton received 80 votes for supreme court judge; Lorenzo Leland, 77 votes for clerk of the supreme court; B. F. Riddle, 63 votes for judge of the ninth district; T. Lyle Dickey, 47 votes for judge; Burton C. Cook, 80 votes for state's attorney and S. C. Ladd, 80 votes for circuit judge.

At the presidential election held in November, 1848, the Democrats carried the county, Lewis Cass, the Democratic candidate, receiving 130 votes, and Zachary Taylor, the Whig candidate, receiving 82 votes. But 4 votes were cast for the Van Buren electoral ticket.

At the election held May 20, 1849, M. B. Patty and L. E. Rhodes were elected county commissioners. In November following, J. C. McMillan was elected county judge; S. C. Ladd, clerk; James Bradley, county justice of the peace; Franklin Oliver, surveyor; Walter Cornell, school commissioner and Jerome P. Garner, coroner. Fifty-six votes were given for township



Beardsley
Alice E. Beardsley

organization out of a total of 164 votes cast—not a majority. The salary of the county treasurer at this time was \$5.00 per year.

The county court under the new organization organized December 31, 1849, with J. C. McMillan as county judge, Philip Rollins and James Bradley as county justices, and S. C. Ladd as clerk.

At a special election held in September, 1850, Murrell Breckenridge was elected county judge. In November following, Henry Loveless was elected sheriff and Joseph Springer, coroner.

At the regular election held in 1852, 379 votes were cast. The vote for secretary of state was: Alexander Starne, Democrat, 209; B. S. Morris, Whig, 161; Erastus White, Anti-slavery, 11. For representatives: C. I. Starlech, 207; C. R. Patton, 203; A. A. Fischer, 156; William Strawn, 26. For state senator, Burton C. Cook, 207; William Paul, 10. D. P. Jenkins was elected state's attorney. We are unable to find a record of the presidential or congressional vote for this year, but it probably did not differ materially from the vote for secretary of state.

The election in 1853 resulted as follows: For county judge, Billings P. Babcock, 243 votes; John Hgobler, 133. For county clerk, George W. Boyer, 221; O. Chubbuck, 118. For associate judge, Eli Myer, 278; John Darnall, 228; Jerome P. Garner, 74; D. McIntosh, 4. For treasurer and assessor, Walter Cornell, 272; Philip Rollins, 94. For county surveyor, James Stout, 156; Charles Hustin, 73; Nelson Buck, 58; Amos Edwards, 48; E. B. Oliver, 21. For school commissioner, H. H. Hinman, 134; James A. Hews, 118; Eli Myer, 103. At this time, the voting precincts had been increased by the addition of Avoca, Reading, New Michigan and Mud Creek precincts.

At the election in 1854, the county for the first time gave majorities for the Whig and Anti-slavery candidates. The vote for congressman was: Jesse O. Norton, 319; J. N. Drake, 207. For representatives, David Straw, 331; F. S. Day, 317; George W. Armstrong, 201; J. L. McCormick, 185. The vote on county officers resulted as follows: For sheriff, W. B. Lyon, 187; Murrell Breckenridge, 133; Jerome P. Garner, 104; M. B. Patty, 69. For coroner, Laban Frakes, 178; Jacob Streamer, 171; Ira Loveless, 118. For surveyor, T. F. Norton, 267; Nelson Buck, 115; I. R. Clark, 80.

In 1855, Walter Cornell was elected treasurer

and assessor; H. H. Hinman, school commissioner; I. R. Clark, surveyor; Thomas Croswell, coroner. Dwight precinct had been added during this year.

At the election in 1857, Nebraska and Days precincts had been added, the latter embracing what is now Broughton and Round Grove townships. This was the last election held under the old county organization, as the township organization went into effect the following year. The vote on township organization was 738 votes for and 40 against. The vote for county officers was: For county judge, Henry Jones, 510; O. Chubbuck, 436. For associate judges, J. P. Morgan, 497; John Darnall, 469; Decatur Veatch, 453; Jacob Angle, 473. For county clerk, S. S. Saul, 525; S. L. Manker, 427. For school commissioners, J. H. Hagerty, 480; J. W. Strevell, 465. For surveyor, Nelson Buck, 493; James Stout, 444; for treasurer, J. R. Woolverton, 488; James Gibbons, 447.

Prior to township organization in 1857, there were but ten voting precincts in the county. When the county was organized in 1837, three voting precincts—Indian Grove, Center and Bayou—were established. In 1853, Reading, New Michigan, Mud Creek and Avoca were added, followed by Dwight in 1855 and Nebraska and Day's, the latter embracing what is now Broughton and Round Grove, in 1857.

The first county officers under township organization were: county judge, Henry Jones, (Dem.); sheriff, James W. Remick, (Rep.); clerk of the circuit court Benjamin W. Gray, (Dem.); treasurer, Joseph R. Woolverton, (Rep.); county surveyor, Nelson Buck, (Dem.); school commissioner, James H. Hagerty, (Dem.).

In 1858 occurred the memorable Lincoln-Douglas campaign. There were at that time twenty-three townships in the county. The county gave a Republican majority of about 200. The vote was: For state treasurer, James Miller, 1,001; William B. Fondy, 789. For superintendent of instruction, Newton Bateman, 998; A. C. French, 790. For congress, Owen Lovejoy, 986; G. W. Armstrong, 794. For representatives, Alexander Campbell, 1,003; R. S. Hick, 1,001; S. C. Collins, 784; William Cogswell, 776. For sheriff, William T. Russell, 987; Joshua C. Mills, 806.

In 1859 at a special election, W. G. McDowell was elected county judge, and in November following, Philip Cook was elected county treasurer;

I. T. Whittemore, school commissioner, and E. W. Gower, surveyor.

At the presidential election held in 1860, the vote of the county polled was 2,563, of which Lincoln received 1,475 and Douglas, 1,088. For congress, Owen Lovejoy received 1,450, and R. N. Murray, 1,097. The vote for state senator was, Washington Bushnell, 1,464; John Hise, 1,074. For two representatives, Andrew J. Cropsey, 1,474; J. W. Newport, 1,475; Daniel Evans, 1,097; H. H. Brown, 1,092. For circuit clerk, James W. Remick, 1,345; Benjamin W. Gray, 1,229. For sheriff, Edward R. Maples, 1,547; James M. Perry, 1,023. For coroner, Thomas Crosswell, 1,475; T. B. Norton, 1,043. For state's attorney, C. H. Wood, 927; G. H. Watson, 859; Joshua Whitmore, 829. There were 1,743 votes cast for the constitutional convention and 120 against.

In June, 1861, the unanimous vote of the county was given to Hon. C. R. Starr, of Kankakee, for circuit judge. He remained upon the bench until he resigned in 1866.

In November, 1861, there were three county tickets in the field—Republican, Democratic, and a Union ticket composed of equal number of Republicans and Democrats. The candidates on the latter were elected. The vote stood: For delegates to the constitutional convention, Perry A. Armstrong, 1,153; Alexander Campbell, 1,115. On county officers the vote was: For county judge, Jonathan Duff, 918; N. S. Grandy, 191; W. G. McDowell, 245. For clerk, R. B. Harrington, 822; J. F. Culver, 511. For treasurer, Samuel Maxwell, 818; J. R. Woolverton, 312; T. W. Brydia, 224. For surveyor, Nelson Buck, 925; T. F. Norton, 403. For school commissioner, J. W. Smith, 1,096; C. M. Lee, 217.

At the November election, 1862, the vote stood: For state treasurer, W. O. Butler, 1,099; Alexander Starne, 938. For congress (at large), E. C. Ingersoll, 1,096; J. C. Allen, 954. For congress (Eighth district), Leonard Swett, 1,110; John T. Stuart, 938. For members of the legislature, Franklin Corwin, 1,098; Albert Parker, 1,097; A. A. Fisher, 1,085; M. B. Patty, 976; T. C. Gibson, 950; J. O. Dent, 950. This county and La Salle County at that time composed the Eighth district. Job E. Dye was elected sheriff and Thomas Crosswell, coroner.

In 1863, M. E. Collins was elected treasurer, Nelson Buck, surveyor, and O. F. Pearre, school commissioner.

In the presidential election of 1864, Lincoln

received 1,746 votes and George B. McClellan, 1,100. The county went Republican by a majority of 650. The townships of Belle Prairie, Sullivan, Owego, Nebraska, Nevada, Reading, and Rooks Creek gave Democratic majorities. In the county, William T. Ament was elected state's attorney, E. W. Capron, coroner, and Amos Hart, sheriff.

Jason W. Strevell was elected Representative in the General Assembly this year from Livingston County, while Franklin Corwin and John Miller were elected from the LaSalle portion of the District.

The election in 1865 was an exciting one. There were two county tickets in the field—the Republican and the Soldiers'. Nearly all the candidates on both tickets were soldiers who had taken part in the late Civil War. The Democrats throughout the county supported the Soldiers' ticket. The vote was: For county judge, J. F. Culver, 1,034; James Stout, 575. For clerk, R. B. Harrington, 969; George W. Rice, 840. For treasurer, Hugh Thompson, 1,077; B. F. Hotchkiss, 729. For superintendent of schools, H. H. Hill, 910; Hugh Pound, 895. For surveyor, A. C. Huetson, 1,013; Nelson Buck, 772.

At the election in 1866 the county went Republican by an average majority of 1,100. Over 3,300 votes were cast. William Strawn, Franklin Corwin and Elmer Baldwin were elected to the Legislature from this district over M. L. Payne, James Clark and Douglas Hapemar. James H. Gaff was elected sheriff and Thomas Crosswell, coroner.

At the judicial election in June, 1866, Charles H. Wood defeated George B. Joiner for judge of the Twentieth circuit.

In November, 1866, William B. Fyfe was elected county treasurer, and A. C. Huetson re-elected county surveyor. A vote was also taken by which the county was to determine whether it would permit cattle to run at large or not, as but few fences at that time had been erected on the various farms. The vote stood 1,249 votes for and 977 against.

At the presidential election in 1868, U. S. Grant received 3,448 votes and Horatio Seymour 2,132. The vote for congressman was, Shelby M. Cullom, 3,447; B. S. Edwards, 2,134. J. W. Strevell defeated Julius Avery for state senator. William Strawn, Franklin Corbin and Samuel Wiley were elected representatives. Mason B. Loomis was elected state's attorney; J. E. Morrow, circuit clerk, and George H. Wentz, sheriff.

Mr. Strevell, of Pontiac, was the first citizen of the county to be elected to the state senate. At this election 5,595 votes were cast, the average Republican majorities being about 1,320. But four towns in the county gave Democratic majorities: Nevada, 33; Belle Prairie, 6; Reading, 2; Sunbury, 7.

At the election in 1869, there were three county tickets in the field—Republican, Democratic and Temperance. The vote was as follows: For county judge, Lewis E. Payson, 1,896; A. E. Harding, 1,126; James Parsons, 108. For clerk, Byron Phelps, 1,806; Robert B. Hanna, 1,224; Eben Norton, 124. For treasurer, Aaron Weider, 1,844; James McIlduff, 1,227; R. G. Morton, 103. For superintendent of schools, H. H. Hill, 1,655; Myron Woolley, 1,182; A. D. Jones, 21. For surveyor, A. C. Huetson, 1,922; Charles Smith, 1,127; James McCabe, 105. N. J. Pillsbury, Joseph Hart and George S. Eldridge were elected delegates to the constitutional convention from this district (Livingston and La Salle).

At this election, eight townships voted for or against township subscription to the proposed Fairbury, Pontiac and Northwestern Railroad Company (now the Streator branch of the Wabash, running from Streator to Fairbury). The vote resulted as follows; Pontiac, 374 for and 6 against; Indian Grove, 273 for and 211 against; Amity, 90 for and 9 against; Eppards Point, 67 for and 25 against; Newtown, 76 for and 49 against; Avoca, 65 for and 63 against; Owego, 90 for and none against; Esmen 75 for and none against. The latter township ignored the vote entirely, on the ground that the 75 votes cast were not a majority of all the voters of the town. In November, 1870, John W. Hoover was elected sheriff; J. J. Wright, coroner; R. W. Babcock, county judge. John Stillwell was elected a member to the Legislature. State's Attorney M. B. Loomis having removed to Chicago, Gov. Palmer appointed C. C. Strawn to fill out the unexpired term.

In 1871, Aaron Weider was re-elected treasurer and A. C. Huetson, surveyor.

At the election held in 1872, the presidential vote stood; Grant, 3,110; Greeley, 1,888; O'Connor, 201. For governor, Oglesby, 3,153; Koerner, 2,062; J. G. Strong of Dwight was elected to the state senate and Lucian Bullard of Forrest to the Legislature. The county officers elected were: state's attorney, James H. Funk;

sheriff, B. E. Robinson; circuit clerk, John A. Fellows.

At the judicial election held in 1873, N. J. Pillsbury received the unanimous vote of the county for circuit judge and was elected, being the first citizen of this county to receive that honor.

There were two tickets in the field in 1873—Republican and Anti-monopoly. At the election held in November, the latter swept the county by a majority of nearly 1,400. R. R. Wallace defeated L. E. Payson for county judge; G. W. Langford was elected over W. H. Jenkins for county clerk; Joseph Stitt defeated A. G. Goodspeed for treasurer; M. Tombaugh defeated J. W. Smith for county superintendent of schools. Republican majorities were given only in the townships of Pontiac, Indian Grove, Avoca, Forrest, Odell and Eppards Point, and in several townships not a vote was cast for that ticket. In 1874, B. E. Robinson was elected sheriff and E. G. Johnson, coroner. In 1875, Joseph Stitt was re-elected treasurer, and B. F. Hotchkiss, surveyor. In 1876, S. T. Fosdick of Chatsworth was elected to the state senate and George B. Gray of Rooks Creek to the Legislature. The county officers elected were: State's attorney, D. L. Murdock; coroner, Darius Johnson; sheriff, B. E. Robinson; circuit clerk, W. H. Jenkins. In August, 1877, Franklin Blades was elected as an additional county judge, receiving nearly a unanimous vote.

The following are the county officers elected up to the present time:

November 5, 1878: Sheriff, James A. Hunter; Coroner, H. E. W. Barnes. November 4, 1879: Treasurer, Arnold Thornton; County Surveyor, D. J. Stanford. November 2, 1880: Circuit Clerk, Zeph Winters; Sheriff, James A. Hunter; State's Attorney, Robert S. McIlduff; Coroner, C. H. Long. November 2, 1882: County Judge, R. R. Wallace; County Clerk, Alvin Wait; Sheriff, S. M. Witt; Treasurer, A. W. Cowan; County Superintendent of Schools, George W. Ferris. November 4, 1884: State's Attorney, C. F. H. Carrithers; Circuit Clerk, James A. Hoover. November 2, 1886: County Judge, R. R. Wallace; County Clerk, Alvin Wait; Sheriff, John T. Wilson; Treasurer, Alex. McKay; County Superintendent of Schools, G. W. Ferris. November 6, 1888: State's Attorney, H. H. McDowell; Coroner, John A. Fellows; Surveyor, D. J. Stanford; Circuit Clerk, James A. Hoover. No-

ember 9, 1899: County Judge, R. R. Wallace; County Treasurer, W. E. Baker; County Clerk, John C. George; County Superintendent of Schools, Henry A. Foster. George F. Kline was appointed Coroner, February 9, 1892. November 8, 1892: Circuit Clerk, Hugh Thompson; State's Attorney, Edgar P. Holly; Surveyor, D. J. Stanford; Coroner, John Zimmerman. November 6, 1894: County Judge, C. M. Barickman; County Clerk, Fred Duckett; Treasurer, James B. Parsons; Sheriff, Edward O. Reed; County Superintendent of Schools, C. R. Tombaugh. November 2, 1896: Circuit Clerk, Erastus Hoobler; State's Attorney, Ray Blasdel; Coroner, W. E. Slyder; Surveyor, D. J. Stanford. November, 1898: County Judge, C. M. Barickman; County Clerk, Fred Duckett; Treasurer, E. O. Reed; Sheriff, W. L. Talbott; County Superintendent of Schools, C. R. Tombaugh. Barickman, after serving three years, resigned as county judge and Gov. Yates appointed Fred G. White to the vacancy. C. R. Tombaugh resigned as county superintendent of schools in September, 1901, and the board of supervisors appointed W. E. Herbert in his stead. November, 1900: Circuit Clerk, Erastus Hoobler; State's Attorney, A. C. Ball; Coroner, W. E. Slyder; Surveyor, D. J. Stanford. November, 1902: County Judge, C. F. H. Carriers; County Clerk, Fred Duckett; Treasurer, W. L. Talbott; County Superintendent of Schools, W. E. Herbert; Sheriff, C. H. Hoke. November, 1904: Circuit Clerk, R. G. Sinclair; State's Attorney, A. C. Ball; Coroner, W. E. Slyder; Surveyor, D. J. Stanford. November, 1906: County Judge, U. W. Louderback; County Clerk, W. W. Kenny; Treasurer, A. L. Mette; Sheriff, James W. Morris.

CHAPTER V.

TOWNSHIPS AND VILLAGES.

ORGANIZATION OF TOWNSHIPS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN 1857—GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS AND ORIGIN OF NAMES—SUBSEQUENT CHANGES—FIRST SETTLERS—LIST OF VILLAGES AND CITIES WITH DATES OF INCORPORATION—SOME ABANDONED VILLAGES.

The county having township organization in 1857, the county commissioners appointed John Darnall, Robert Thompson and Absalom Hallam, as commissioners to lay out this county into townships. The commissioners divided the county into townships, and in 1858 they gave the inhabitants of the various towns notice that they would meet with them and give them an opportunity to name the towns in which they resided. The township and range, date and place of meeting, and name given the township, are as follows:

Township 27 and 28, Range 3, at home of Sathiel Hallam on January 25—Nebraska.

Township 29, Range 3, school house in district No. 2, January 26—Long Point.

Township 30, Range 3, at village of Reading, January 26—Reading.

Township 30, Range 4, at village of New Michigan, January 27—Newtown.

Township 30, Range 5, at home of T. F. Norton, January 28—Sunbury.

Township 30, Range 6, at Kyle's school house in District 3. January 30—Nevada.

Township 29, Range 6 and 7, in village of Odell, January 29—Odell.

Township 30, Range 7, in village of Dwight, January 30—Dwight.

Township 29 and 30, Range 8, at house of Stephen Potter, February 1—Round Grove.

Township 27, Range 7 and 28, Range 8, at home of T. W. Brydia, February 2—Saunemin.

Township 26, Range 7 and 8 and 25, Range 8, at home of Franklin Oliver, February 3—Oliver's Grove.

Township 26, Range 6, at village of Avoca, February 4—Avoca.

Township 26, Range 6, at school house on section 16. February 6—Worth. (On May 11, 1858, upon petition to the board of supervisors, the name was changed to Indian Grove.)

Township 25, Range 6 and 7, at Walton's school house, February 6—Belle Prairie.

Township 27, Range 5, at home of Eli Myer, February 8—Eppards Point.

Township 27 and 28, Range 4, at home of John Johnson, February 9—Rooks Creek.

Township 29, Range 4, at Springer's school house, February 10—Amity.

Township 29, Range 5, at home of Apollos Camp, February 11—Esmen.

Township 28, Range 6, at school house near John Foster's, February 12—Owego.



CELESTUS AND AMANDA BEARDSLEY

Township 28, Range 5, at court house in Pontiac, February 13—Pontiac.

At the meeting held in the court house, the commissioners added two more townships. Township 27, Range 4, was separated from township 28, Range 4 (Rooks Creek) and organized under the name of Pike, and township 29 in Range 8 was separated from township 30 in Range 8 (Round Grove) and named Broughtonville.

Belle Prairie included what is now Fayette, the latter being separated in 1871. Oliver's Grove was composed of the townships now known as Chatsworth, Forrest and Germanville. Saunemin included the townships of Sullivan, Pleasant Ridge and Charlotte. Union was a part of Odell until 1864. Waldo was separated from Nebraska in 1861.

NAMING OF THE TOWNSHIPS.

INDIAN GROVE.—Was named by Francis J. Moore. The township was first called Worth. Six months later it was changed to Indian Grove.

ROOKS CREEK.—Named after Frederick Rook, the first settler, who located in that township in December, 1830.

EPPARD'S POINT.—Named after John Eppard, one of the first settlers.

PONTIAC.—Named by Jesse W. Fell of Bloomington, after Pontiac, the Indian chief.

SUNBURY.—Named by William K. Brown, who came to this county in 1836, after the town in Pennsylvania where he formerly resided.

ESMEN.—Given its name by Billings P. Babcock, who located in that township in 1848. There was quite a strife in the town, Litchfield, Deer Creek and Campville being the names suggested, but Esmen carried the day.

OWEGO.—Was named by Daniel Rockwood, the first settler, for his former residence in New York state.

NEBRASKA.—Named by Reuben Macy, from the then prominence of "Nebraska Bill."

SULLIVAN.—Named after Michael L. Sullivan, the Ford county land king, who also owned several sections of land in this township.

WALDO.—Named by Parker Jewett, from his old town in Maine.

GERMANVILLE.—Named after the German settlement in that township.

AVOCA.—Named by the McDowells, who were the early settlers. It means "the meeting of

the waters," two branches of the Vermillion river meeting in this township.

BELLE PRAIRIE.—Named by R. B. Harrington. The township at that time was largely Democratic, and some wanted it named Douglas, but a majority decided in favor of its present name.

BROUGHTON.—Named by William Broughton, the first settler in the township.

CHARLOTTE.—Named by Louis W. Dart, after a girl that he courted in Vermont, his native state, in his bachelor days.

READING.—Named after Reading, Mich., although the first settlers came from Ohio.

PLEASANT RIDGE.—Named after a "ridge" or high knoll in the township.

NEWTOWN.—First settled by people from Michigan. A little hamlet was located in the township, called New Michigan. When the township was organized, it was called Newtown.

LONG POINT.—From the stream and timber in it.

NEVADA.—Named by Stephen Kyle. He had been to the far west in his younger days and had worked in Nevada. When the township was named, he gave it the name it now bears.

DWIGHT.—Was named for Henry Dwight, builder of the Chicago & Mississippi Railroad (now the Alton), who was supposed to have been wealthy, but lost it all in the failure of the road.

ODELL.—Was named by S. S. Morgan for William H. Odell, chief engineer of the same road when it was built. He died at Braidwood in 1907.

CHATSWORTH.—Was named by W. H. Osborne, former President of the Illinois Central Railroad, for the country seat of the Duke of Devonshire, in Scotland, who was largely interested in that road.

FORREST.—Was named by Mr. Frost, then President of the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad, for his former partner, Mr. Forrest of New York. It was first called Forrestville, but later changed to Forrest.

SAUNEMIN.—Given its name by Franklin Oliver, after the old sachem of the Kickapoo Indians. Oliver settled among the Indians in the spring of 1832, and knew the chief well.

INCORPORATED CITIES AND VILLAGES.

The following table presents a list of the incorporated cities, towns and villages of Livingston County, with rank and date of incorporation, and population according to census of 1900:

Campus.	Village	June 10, 1892	226
Chatsworth.	Town	March 8, 1867	1038
Cornell.	Village	June 18, 1873	521
Cullom.	Village	July 28, 1882	456
Dwight.	Town	March 24, 1869	
Dwight.	Village	July 23, 1872	2015
Emington.	Village	December 20, 1885	206
Fairbury.	Town	August 8, 1864	
Fairbury.	Village	February 3, 1890	
Fairbury.	City	March 12, 1895	2187
Flanagan.	Village	August 3, 1882	509
Forrest.	Village	March 24, 1874	952
Long Point.	Village	July 27, 1899	284
Odell.	Town	February 1, 1869	
Odell.	Village	August 5, 1872	1003
Pontiac.	Town	February 10, 1857	
Pontiac.	City	August 16, 1872	4266
Saunemin.	Village	June 30, 1882	350
Strawn.	Village	December 1, 1879	224

ABANDONED TOWNS.

Scarcely a township in Illinois but contains the site of what was once thought to be a "future great" city, and this state has the unique distinction of possessing more instances of disappointed hopes relative to boom towns than any other in the Union. Illinois was settled more rapidly during the pioneer era than any other state of the middle west, and hundreds of villages were founded which were believed by their enthusiastic progenitors to bid fair to become the metropolis of the west. Now the plow grates upon the forgotten stones of their foundation.

The village of Richmond was once a rival of Pontiac. It was laid out in 1851 for Henry Jones and Henry Loveless, and with prospects of the Chicago & Alton Railroad going through it, it boomed and became one of the most important towns in Livingston County. The railroad, instead, passed two miles to the west and there is no trace of the once populous and thriving village, although at one time there were several stores and shops and a school house erected there.

The village of Avoca, in Avoca township, passed out of existence when the town of Fairbury, three miles south, was laid out in 1857. The little village was laid out in the early 40's. It attracted attention through a revival meeting in which nearly all those who attended were afflicted with the "jerks."

New Michigan, in Newtown township, faded away when coal was discovered at Streator, some

six miles to the northwest. The little town in the later '50s had the only academy in the county, where the higher branches of education were taught.

Sullivan Center, in Sullivan township, ceased to exist after the towns of Saunemin, Chatsworth and Cullom were started. At one time it did a thriving business.

Murphy Station and Norman were two small towns on the Chicago & Paducah Road, between Fairbury and Strawn. The railroad track between the two last named towns was taken up over twenty years ago. Murphy and Norman are now waving corn fields.

The village of Potosi, on the south line of Belle Prairie, was quite a town in the '70s. Not a vestige of the place is left to tell where it once was located.

Zookville and Windtown are two villages of the past. Both were located in Nebraska township. Zookville was located on section 10 and Windtown on section 19. Seymour Thomas formerly conducted a store at the former place and John Linneman at the latter. Windtown received its name from the fact that a windmill had been erected there at an early day. A Lutheran church still stands there, and besides having a resident pastor, it has a large congregation.

CHAPTER VI.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

FIRST BOARD OF SUPERVISORS—GRAND AND PETIT JURORS—DISPOSITION OF SWAMP LAND INCOME—RECEIPTS TO BE INVESTED IN CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND COUNTY JAIL—ACTION ON LIQUOR LICENSES—RATES OF TAXATION—ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW TOWNSHIP OF WALDO—EARLY TAX COLLECTIONS—ASSESSMENTS OF 1858 AND 1907 COMPARED—RAILROAD TAXES 1907.

The first board of supervisors under township organization was elected in April, 1858, the members and the townships they represented being: Pontiac, William T. Russell; Esmer, W. R. Babcock; Avoca, Aaron Weider; Odell, S. S. Morgan; Nevada, S. H. Kyle; Owego, Dantel

Rockwood; Newtown, Eben Norton; Belle Prairie, V. M. Darnall; Nebraska, Reuben Macey; Broughton, William Broughton; Pike, G. M. Bedinger; Rooks Creek, William T. Garner; Dwight, Isaac G. Mott; Long Point, James P. Morgan; Round Grove, Robert Eldred; Amity, Reason McDouglas; Saunemin, Isaac Wilson; Sunbury, J. O. Corey; Indian Grove, John Cumpston; Eppards Point, Eli Myer; Oliver's Grove, J. T. Hart; Reading, I. S. R. Overholt. Isaac G. Mott was elected chairman of the board at the first meeting held on May 10.

At this session, S. S. Morgan, Robert Eldred and Isaac Wilson were appointed a committee to report a plan for a county jail, with a probable cost for erecting one; J. R. Wolverton was appointed commissioner to sell and convey swamp lands; a proposition to loan the Agricultural Society of Livingston County (Pontiac fair society) \$200 until the next meeting of the board in September, at the rate of ten per cent annum, was defeated by 12 naves to 5 ayes; it was ordered that hereafter no license for the sale of ardent spirits in this county shall be granted; the sheriff was instructed to procure a chandelier for the court room at a cost not to exceed \$50. The board then proceeded to select the following grand and petit jurors for the September term of circuit court, as follows:

Grand Jurors: Francis Moore, R. B. Foster, William R. Manlove, William Ellis, John Garry, D. B. Harlin, Jacob Bussard, David Breckenridge, L. W. Richmond, Thomas Campbell, Jeremiah Hoobler, William Farmer, Joseph Finley, A. J. Collins, Robert H. Smith, Samuel Packwood, John Currier, Shope Rogers, E. H. Robbins, John Veatch, John Harper, Jacob Angle, Daniel Garrach.

Petit Jurors: John Travis, C. M. Lee, Robert Aeri, R. P. Finley, I. P. McDowell, A. J. Ewart, Joshua Mills, Albert Parker, John Lilly, Henry Lundy, E. Breckenridge, William Perry, David Ross, Asa Blakeslee, R. G. Crouch, John Benham, A. A. Streeter, James George, Samuel Hillery, John Ridinger, George Whitlock, Thomas Broughton and Stephen Potter.

At the sessions of the board held during November of the same year, the following resolutions were adopted: "That the special committee on swamp lands shall have the power to employ an attorney to commence suit to recover lands fraudulently preempted, or to sell at reduced prices such lands to actual purchasers

who will undertake to contest the same with the supposed fraudulent preemptors, at the committee's discretion, and that each supervisor be requested to report all such cases that shall come to his knowledge to the chairman of said committee, together with all information he can procure on the subject.

"That one-half of the interest arising from the sale of swamp lands he divided equally among the various towns of this county, for the purpose of constructing roads and bridges.

"That one-half of two successive years' interest, to accrue on swamp land sales made by the county, be appropriated toward building a county jail.

"That the school commissioner is hereby authorized to appropriate annually, until otherwise ordered by this board, any sum that may be necessary, not to exceed \$200, of money that may come into his hands arising from the sale of swamp land, for defraying the expenses of a Teachers' Institute.

"That the board of supervisors will not allow any claims for reduction of the price of swamp land, unless, in the opinion of this Board, such reduction can be obtained by an action at law.

"That the swamp land commissioner be ordered to make a division of all cash in his hands appropriated to the different towns for roads and bridges, and that he use due diligence to collect all notes now due this county for interest in swamp land sales.

"That S. S. Saul (county clerk) be allowed for service in swamp land matters and extra labor in making up assessments and tax books, and for services connected with township organization, the sum of \$40.

"That the school commissioner be required to publish a full report of the total amount of money received from all sources since the first day of October, 1857, to the same time in 1858, together with a statement of the amount paid to each township treasurer.

"That the clerk of the court be requested to pay over to the county treasurer all jury and docket fees now in his hands."

The following orders and matters, also appear of record at this session of the Board:

"On the recommendation of the Committee on Public Buildings, it was ordered that Joseph R. Wolverton, county treasurer, be authorized to procure a safe for his use at a cost not exceeding

\$100, and that County Clerk S. S. Saul do what may be necessary to the court house chimneys to prevent their smoking.

"The special committee (Reuben Macey and Aaron Weider) to whom was referred the subject of granting license for the sale of spirituous liquors to John B. Ostrander of Reading township, having consulted together, would recommend that no license be granted in the county.

"Ordered that Sheriff James W. Remick be authorized to contract for coal for the use of the county for the coming winter.

"Order that the assessment of money to the amount of \$2,200 to John Cumpston, by the assessor of Indian Grove, be abated.

"That hereafter no more than \$1.00 per foot shall be paid for coffins for paupers.

"Supervisors W. T. Russell, Samuel Kyle, I. G. Mott, S. S. Morgan and William T. Garner were appointed a committee to contract for the building of a suitable jail, the cost of which shall not exceed \$8,000, to be paid for out of one-half of the interest to accrue after the first of June, 1859. Said committee shall also employ some one to finish the out-house, and have an ornamental cornice put around it, have the house raised about two feet, and a stone wall put around it. That Nelson Buck, the county surveyor, be authorized to put up two stone monuments to set compasses by, at his own expense, as per his proposition filed with the clerk of this board, and that the committee to build a jail be instructed to furnish the said Buck with two good stones suitable for the said monuments."

The Committee on Town Accounts recommended that the following rates of taxes, on \$100 valuation, be assessed on the property of the following towns; Pontiac, 4 cents; Dwight, 7 cents; Avoca, 10 cents; Long Point, 7 cents; Amity, 12 cents; Owego, 12 cents; Sunbury, 5 cents; Reading, 7 cents; Indian Grove, Belle Prairie and Eppards Point, 3 cents; Nevada, 2 cents; Nebraska, 6 cents; Saunemin, Esmen and Newtown, 4 cents; Oliver's Grove and Broughton, 5 cents; Round Grove, 25 cents; Odell, 6 cents. The amount levied for road and bridge taxes were; Sunbury, 10 cents; Reading, 30 cents; Odell, 34 cents. For burial ground, Esmen, Avoca, Long Point and Owego were each assessed 13 cents. After selecting the following to serve as jurors at the March term, 1859, of circuit court, the board adjourned.

Grand Jurors: Long Point, William Eaton;

Rooks Creek, Samuel Anderson; Pontiac, David Cox and William Gore; Belle Prairie, Martin Travis; Indian Grove, John Kring; Owego, John Whiteman; Dwight, John Eaton; Sunbury, James P. Headley; Pike, W. L. Woodbury; Amity, Chester Morris; Saunemin, John Smith; Oliver's Grove, Nicholas Wilson; Nevada, R. C. Adams; Round Grove, William P. Johnson; Odell, William Brown; Reading, Samuel Thompson; Broughton, Edward Hammond; Avoca, John McDowell; Eppards Point, John Richardson; Esmen, John Campbell; Newtown, Otis Whaley; Nebraska, Daniel B. Kenyon.

Petit Jurors: Long Point, O. B. Wheeler; Rooks Creek, Robert McClellan; Pontiac, H. G. Challis; Belle Prairie, Marion F. Steers; Indian Grove, Isaac Vail; Owego, William Street; Dwight, Nelson Cornell; Sunbury, Andrew Sprague; Pike, Daniel Okeson; Odell, John Harbison; Amity, Thomas McReynolds; Saunemin, James Madden; Oliver's Grove, John Harper; Nevada, John Thompson; Round Grove, Daniel Mulford; Reading, Peter Kyser and Caleb Mathis; Avoca, J. J. Veatch and John Bodley; Broughton, Thomas Broughton; Eppards Point, A. A. Minier; Esmen, B. P. Babcock; Newtown, Walter Cornell; Nebraska, James B. Dakin.

At the sessions held in October, 1859, the following orders appear of record:

"Ordered that W. T. Russell build a coal house for the court house at a cost not to exceed \$100; that \$30 be appropriated to remove one Jacobs, a pauper in Odell, to his friends in Iowa; that the sum of \$1,000 be donated to the Livingston County Agricultural Society of Pontiac, to be paid out of the first money received from the interest on swamp land sales, not otherwise appropriated; that the valuation of the track of the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis railroad in this county be raised to 70 cents per foot, for purposes of taxation, in the year 1859; that the name of the town of Oliver's Grove be changed to Chatsworth; that taxes be levied for town expenses, as follows: Pontiac and Amity, 12½ cents; Nebraska, 6 cents; that the county will pay one-half the expenses of putting the pump in the court house yard in good order, if the people of Pontiac will pay the remaining one-half; that the county taxes for the year 1859 be raised from 30 cents to 35 cents on \$100 valuation; a motion to appropriate \$300 to repair the bridge over the Vermillion river at Pontiac, provided the corporation of Pontiac



BELLES of '60

PHOTO BY HEATH

shall appropriate a like sum for the same purpose, was carried.

The following were elected as jurors for the March term, 1860, of the circuit court:

Grand Jurors: Benjamin Walton, H. H. McKee, John Carlisle, Hiram Young, William B. Lyon, Leander Morgan, Ewin Houchin, Reason McDouglas, Aaron Chambers, Samuel Marsh, Israel J. Krack, Philip Clover, George Skinner, Hilliard VanDoren, Joel Anderson, William Forsythe, Eli Myer, Robert Elmore, Edwin Lathrop, Moses Ross, Ansel E. Gammon, C. Eisenhower, William Fugate.

Petit Jurors: William Brooks, Jesse Legg, John Benham, William Joyce, John Hammond, R. F. Norton, M. B. Patty, William Taylor, William C. Johnson, Robert Miller, Benjamin H. Blue, John Dearborn, M. E. McKee, Aaron Weider, William E. Thompson, William Veatch, Orson Shackleton, Samuel Silleck, James McIl-duff, James Whalen, Dudley Laycock, Z. Schwartz, Simeon Dunham and William R. Tanner.

At a special meeting held on Tuesday, November 29, 1859, it was ordered that a committee of three be appointed to employ a mechanic to superintend the repairing of the court house, same having been damaged by the storm three days previous (see Destructive Storms); that the committee have the repairs made on the original plan, with the exception of a wooden gable on the south end of the building, similar to that on the north end, and that S. L. Frost be employed to superintend the said repairs, and that he employ all the mechanics that can work to an advantage upon the job, until the building is enclosed; that said Frost keep an accurate account of the number of days worked by each hand employed.

At the election held in April, 1860, the following supervisors were elected: Indian Grove, E. Tracey; Pontiac, Henry Hill; Esmen, W. R. Babcock; Avoca, Samuel Morrison; Odell, Hial Hamlin; Nevada, Robert Thompson; Newtown, Otho Pearre; Owego, Daniel Rockwood; Belle Prairie, Jesse Hanna; Nebraska, Reuben Macey; Broughton, James Wray; Pike, G. M. Bedinger; Rooks Creek, William T. Garner; Dwight, Robert Young; Long Point, Edward Allen; Round Grove, Jesse Slyder; Amity, Moses Allen; Saunemin, Truman W. Brydia; Pleasant Ridge, Isaac Wilson; Sunbury, John Gower; Eppards Point,

Otis Richardson; Reading, Joshua Mills; Oliver's Grove, William H. Jones.

At the meeting of the Board held May 4 and 5 of that year, the following, among other proceedings, were had:

"That the overseer of the poor in the town of Amity be authorized to advertise for proposals for the keeping of James Winters, and that he shall give the keeping of the said Winters to the lowest bidder who will give security for his good treatment.

"That the school commissioner be and he is hereby permitted to draw from the school fund \$1.00 for each annual visit he may make to all the schools in the county, not more than two visits to be made in one day.

"Jesse Hanna, Hial Hamlin and Moses Allen were appointed a committee to report to the Board at the September term the expediency of establishing a poor asylum, and that they be empowered to correspond with the board of supervisors of Woodford and Marshall counties in regard to the propriety of uniting with them in establishing one common asylum at some central point for three counties.

"Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Town and Town Accounts, it was ordered by the Board that the action of the Board heretofore in changing the boundaries of Newtown township be reconsidered, and that the Vermilion river shall be the line between that town and the town of Reading, as established by the commissioners who divided the county into towns or townships."

Following persons were selected as jurymen for the September term of circuit court:

Grand Jurors: H. M. Gillette, E. L. Stratton, Jeremiah Mathis, Albert Parker, John Lilly, E. Breckenridge, John Hoobler, Louis W. Dart, Robert Eldred, D. W. Young, Hiram Young, E. G. Rice, John Place, R. B. Harrington, Joshua Chesebro, John Lindley, Isaac P. McDowell, John Foster, George Berkley, Jacob Angle, Louis Kenyon, Job McGuinn, William Broughton.

Petit Jurors: Willard B. Tucker, J. P. Morgan, M. M. Trimble, A. H. Boyd, B. P. Wilson, Thomas M. Campbell, Ira Peck, J. W. Day, J. B. Lamb, R. W. Babcock, James Dunham, S. H. Gammon, V. Currier, John Holman, Samuel Hoah, Lanson E. Ross, E. H. Snyder, Charles Crawford, Oliver Smith, G. M. Allison, John McClerland.

At the September term, 1860, the board of

supervisors divided the township of Nebraska. It was composed of two congressional towns. The northern half retains the original name of Nebraska, while the southern half was called Kansas. (The latter name has since been changed to Waldo).

COMPARISON OF ASSESSMENTS, 1858-1907.

The total value of all the property in Livingston county for the year 1907 was \$84,181,185, the total assessed value being \$16,836,277—the full value being five times the assessed value. The amount of taxes assessed in the county for the year 1858 was but \$36,244.93. In 1907 it was \$519,253.57. A comparison of the taxes for these years will probably be of interest, as shown by the following:

TOWNSHIPS.

Waldo	\$ 9,672.08	
Nebraska	16,256.68	\$1,696.68
Long Point.....	12,321.26	1,143.68
Reading	11,453.14	241.99
Pike	9,931.44	948.38
Rooks Creek.....	11,600.21	689.96
Amity	14,623.74	1,172.07
Newtown	9,184.07	
Eppards Point	10,365.44	1,630.02
Pontiac	79,020.27	3,078.42
Esmer	9,219.37	
Sunbury	9,981.08	1,352.44
Belle Prairie	6,192.56	1,678.85
Indian Grove	35,958.08	1,242.17
Avoca	9,095.59	1,958.49
Owego	10,152.07	1,465.63
Odell	23,431.89	3,843.22
Nevada	8,264.28	826.55
Fayette	7,398.65	
Forrest	18,651.17	
Pleasant Ridge	8,091.16	
Saunemin	14,970.75	1,985.46
Union	8,181.29	
Dwight	32,820.71	1,645.78
Germanville	5,655.32	
Chatsworth	19,806.17	1,498.51
Charlotte	8,859.53	
Sullivan	16,455.19	
Broughton	9,869.01	345.15
Round Grove	16,611.72	1,631.64
Total	\$464,103.93	\$36,244.93
Railroads	53,393.10	
Telegraph and Telephone.	1,756.45	
Total.....	\$519,253.57	

The total taxes extended for the year 1907, were as follows: State, \$84,235.83; county, \$67,355.23; town, \$14,143.86; road and bridge, \$71,092.27; corporation, \$63,261.43; township high school, \$15,308.31; district school, \$191,733.16; district road, \$8,889.19; dog tax, \$2,971; back tax, \$263.29.—Total, \$519,253.57.

The railroad taxes for 1907 were; Chicago and Alton, \$18,021.36; Wabash, \$14,390.03; Kankakee and Southwestern (Illinois Central), \$7,122.33; Toledo, Peoria and Western, \$4,220.06; Santa Fe, \$2,913.98; C. I. & S., (formerly the Three I.) \$4,978.15; Bloomington, Pontiac, and Joliet (electric line) \$1,747.28.—Total, \$53,393.19.

Telegraph and telephone, \$1,756.45.

EARLY COLLECTION OF TAXES.

Prior to township organization (1857) the taxes in this county were collected by the sheriff, who was ex-officio collector. The county at that time was none too well settled, and the roads to the county seat at Pontiac were few and far between. To accommodate the settlers, the sheriff would mount his horse, take the books and visit every precinct, remaining two days. The taxes on unimproved tracts in 1857 were as follows: 160 acres, \$5.14; 320 acres, \$10.27; 640 acres, \$20.54. The last sheriff to perform this task was James W. Renick, who, during January, 1858, made the rounds as follows: Reading precinct, at the store of D. B. Shackleton; New Michigan, at the store of Collins & Dice; Mud Creek, at the home of Andrew Sprague; Dwight, at the store of David McWilliams; Day's, at the home of Sylvester Potter; Avoca, at the office of W. G. McDowell; Indian Grove, at the home of John Darnall; Bayou, at the home of the late Joseph Reynolds; Nebraska, at the home of Moses Hopwood; during the month of February at the office of the sheriff in Pontiac. Persons not quite familiar with the numbers of their lands, were "requested to bring their title papers or old tax receipts, as this will facilitate business." The delinquent tax list published in June, 1858, showed that 1,427 persons had failed to pay their taxes on farm lands, due to the panic and poor crops.

OFFICIAL LEGAL BUSINESS, 1907-'08.

COMMON LAW CASES.—On the January (1908) docket of common law side of the circuit court, there were 146 cases against 170 a year ago and

112 two years ago. On the May docket there were 168, against 144 a year ago and 119 two years ago. On the October docket there were 184 cases, 158 a year ago and 139 two years ago. The January (1908) docket contained 31 new cases against 69 the year before; the May docket, 70 new cases against 40 a year ago, and the October term 43 new cases against 60 a year ago. The January (1909) common law docket contained 48 new cases.

CHANCERY CASES.—The January docket contained 175 cases against 186 a year ago and 144 the year preceding. On the May docket there were 208 and 104 the year before that. The October docket contained 160 cases, while that of the same time in 1907 contained 144 and 157 the year previous. During the year 1908 there were 95 new cases instituted on the chancery docket, with 98 in 1907. On the January docket there were 34 new ones, on the May docket 28 and on the October 33. The January (1909) docket contained 22 new chancery cases.

The new cases started on the chancery docket during 1908 are as follows: Divorce, 33; remove cloud, 7; partition, 8; foreclosure, 15; quiet title, 10; miscellaneous, 19; injunction and relief, 1; accounting, 1; specific performance, 1. Total, 95.

CRIMINAL CASES.—The number of indictments returned during the year shows a slight falling off over the number returned during 1907. The total number of indictments returned by the several grand juries of 1908 was 79, while that of 1907 was 89.

The indictments returned during the year are as follows: Malicious mischief, 8; burglary and larceny, 14; larceny, 3; forgery, 2; assault to murder, 2; habeas corpus, 2; attachment, 8; false imprisonment, 1; assault with a deadly weapon, 5; confidence game, 2; arson, 1; conspiracy, 1; criminal appeals, 4; robbery, 1; assault to kill, 2; selling liquor to minor, 1; selling liquor without license, 7; manslaughter, 1; debt, 1; homicide, 1; false pretenses, 1; murder, 1; embezzlement, 2; violation of medical practice act, 1; gaming, 5; abduction, 1. Total, 79.

DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL CASES.—On the criminal side of the circuit court the following cases were disposed of in the manner mentioned: Verdict of not guilty, 10; nolle, 6; indictments quashed, 2; fined on a plea of guilty, 6; fined for contempt of court, 2; sentenced to county jail, 10—*i. e.*—killing dog, 1; larceny, 4; assault with

deadly weapon, 3; assault to rape, 1; malicious mischief, 1; sentenced to Reformatory—*i. e.*—burglary and larceny, 1. Sent to asylum for criminal insane, 1. Sentenced to the penitentiary, 10—*i. e.*—burglary and larceny, 4; confidence game, 1; arson, 1; robbery, 1; embezzlement, 2; abduction, 1.

DAYS OF COURT.—During the year 1907 circuit court was in session 288 days. The October term was the longest of all, it being in session 144 days. The longest session last year was that of the October term, which was in session 46 days. The total number of days during which court was in session during the year 1908 was 113.

DIVORCES.—1902—36 granted; 8 dismissed; 1903—41 granted; 34 continued; 1904—24 granted; 51 continued; 1908—21 granted; 8 dismissed. 1906—25 granted; 6 dismissed; 1907—47 granted; 51 continued; 1908—21 granted; 8 dismissed.

WORDS TRANSCRIBED.—The number of words transcribed on the criminal docket during the year 1908 shows an increase of 27 per cent over 1907; the common law shows a decrease of 6 per cent, and the chancery an increase of 25 per cent.

INSTRUMENTS FILED.—The total number of instruments filed during 1908 was 3,231, while a year ago there were 3,364 filed and two years ago 4,071, which was the highest since 1902, when 4,007 instruments were filed for record in the office. The following gives the number of instruments filed during the year 1908 and in what month they were filed: January, 245; February, 431; March, 504; April, 250; May, 253; June, 256; July, 194; August, 223; September, 219; October, 211; November, 172; December, 273.

The following is a summary of filings made in each year during the past seven years: 1902, 4,007; 1903, 3,301; 1904, 3,370; 1905, 3,870; 1906, 4,071; 1907, 3,364; 1908, 3,231.

NATURALIZATIONS.—The matter of becoming a citizen of the United States has become much more difficult during the past two years than formerly, on account of the new laws placed in effect. On this account the number of naturalizations, of course, is lower, but foreign born residents are becoming better acquainted with the law, and the applicants are increasing. During the year 1908, four persons received their final papers in Livingston County as against one a year ago; 33 declared their intentions of becoming citizens, against 22 a year ago. Eleven

have filed their petitions for final papers against four a year ago.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.—During the year 1908, Coroner W. E. Slyder conducted twelve inquests as follows:

Martha A. Handley, Pontiac, April 15, shock superinduced by falling into cistern.

John E. Brown, Dwight, April 27, killed by cars.

Frank Cichowlas, Dwight, May 14, killed by cars.

Michael Zaropewski, Cullom, May 23, heart failure superinduced by old age.

Emil Honegger, Wing, June 8, injuries received by fall from wagon.

Paul Glinn, Reading, June 16, accidental drowning.

W. H. Brace, Pontiac, July 4, run down by freight train.

Ephraim Dockham, Pontiac, July 8, gunshot wound, self-inflicted.

A. H. Haag, Cullom, July 28, gunshot wound.

Carl Dahlback, Flanagan, November 1, burned to death while sleeping in residence of Albert Park, which was destroyed by fire.

Samuel McCauley, Dwight, August 2, killed by cars.

Mary Elizabeth Fitzsimmons, Pontiac, December 11, heart disease.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.—During the year 1908, County Clerk W. W. Kenny and his deputies issued 282 marriage licenses, against 276 in 1907 and 313 in 1906. The banner month was February, when 39 licenses were issued, while January and December were close on its heels with 26 and 35, respectively. May was at the foot of the column, with but eight licenses issued. The following is the number of licenses issued during the year month by month: January, 36; February, 39; March, 17; April, 14; May, 8; June, 30; July, 12; August, 18; September, 22; October, 25; November, 26; December, 35.

BIRTH RECORD.—The total number of births recorded in the office of the County Clerk from January 1, 1908, to September 1, 1908, is 362. Of this total 176 were boys, 195 were girls, while sex of one was not reported. Of the total, 356 are reported as white and 6 colored. Of the parents of the children, 239 of the fathers gave their place of birth as Illinois, 21 as the United States, 42 as foreign born, while the birthplaces of fifteen are not given. Of the mothers, 254

were born in Illinois and 27 gave their place of birth as the United States, while 31 were born in foreign countries.

WILLS PROBATED.—In the county clerk's office during the year 1908, there were 56 wills filed for probate, as follows: January, 3; February, 3; March, 6; April, 6; May, 5; June, 6; July, 7; August, 10; September, 3; October, 3; November, 2; December, 2.

COUNTY AND PROBATE COURT.—On the probate docket in the court of Judge U. W. Louderback there appear 144 cases during the year 1908. Of this number 19 were insanity cases, 1 was for adoption, while the remainder were for appointment of guardian, conservator, executor, etc.

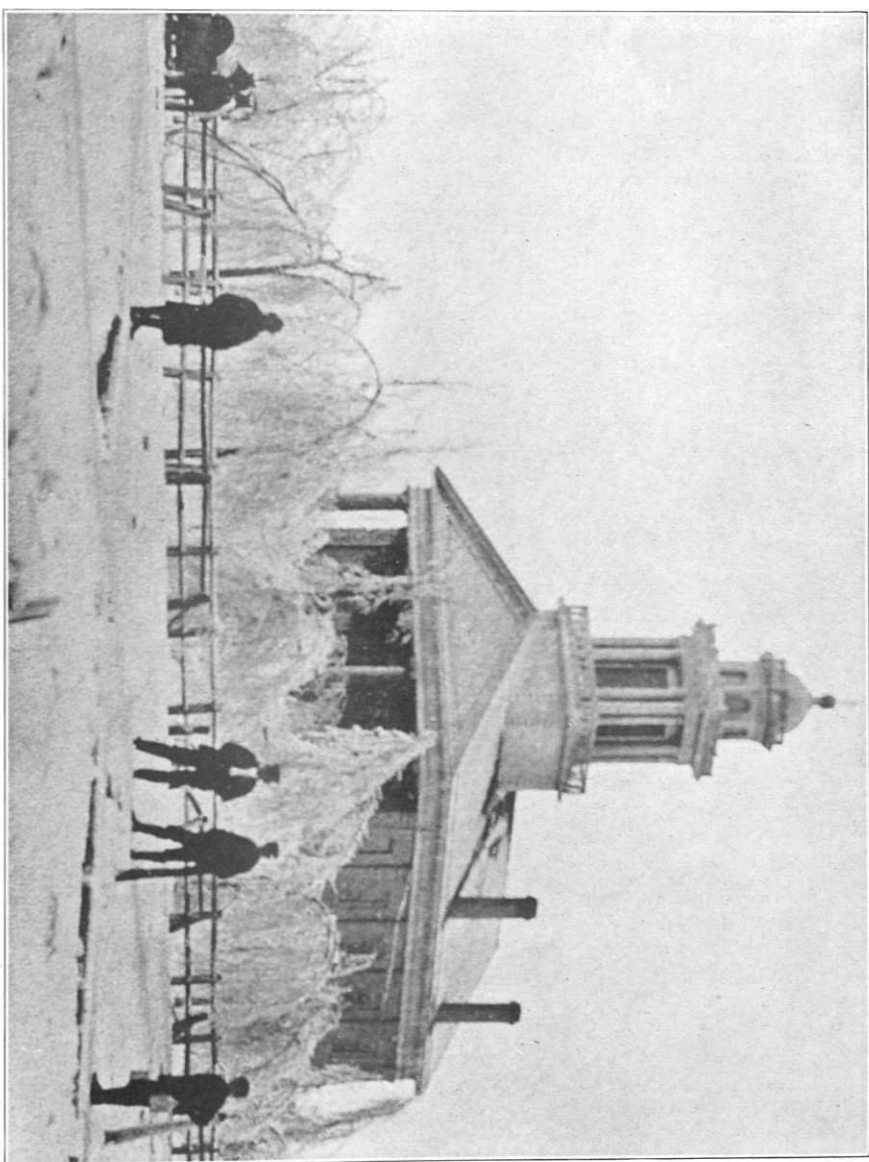
On the law docket, criminal side, there appeared thirty-six cases, as follows: Incurable, 2; dependent, 3; larceny, 3; delinquent, 3; assault with a deadly weapon, 2; criminal libel, 2; miscellaneous, 3; selling liquor without license, 4; selling liquor to minors, 5; appeal, 4; scire facias, 1. On the common law side there appeared twenty-nine cases, as follows: Appeal, 9; condemnation, 1; miscellaneous, 8; assumpsit, 5; rights of property, 1; attachment, 3; confession, 2.

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.—Sheriff J. W. Morris and his deputies report a very busy year during 1908. In the matter of serving papers relating to suits in courts, etc., the work is increasing greatly from year to year. During the year there have been 251 prisoners under the care of the sheriff. The largest number at any one time was 37 and the smallest number was 7. During the year, 6 prisoners were taken to Joliet to serve sentences in the penitentiary, 3 were taken to the Reformatory, 1 to the institution for the criminal insane at Chester, 12 to Kankakee Asylum, 2 to Bartonville, 2 to St. Charles, and 1 to the state institution for dependent girls at Geneva. During the year 117 prisoners served jail sentences.

CHAPTER VII.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

COURT HOUSES—FIRST TERM OF LIVINGSTON CIRCUIT COURT HELD IN A LOG CABIN—JUDGE SAMUEL H. TREAT THE PRESIDING JUSTICE—FIRST



COURT HOUSE, RUTLAND IN 1856-7
Destroyed by fire July 4th, 1874. Photographed after a sleet storm in February, 1870

COURT HOUSE ERECTED IN 1839-40—OTHER JUDGES WHO PRESIDED THERE—SECOND BUILDING ERECTED IN 1857—DESCRIPTION OF PRESENT BUILDING ERECTED IN 1875—PRESENT OFFICIAL OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDING—FIRST COUNTY JAIL ERECTED IN 1867—CHANGES WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE BUILDING.

The first regular term of circuit court was held by Hon. Samuel H. Treat, in the spring of 1840, in an old log cabin erected by Henry Weed in the fall of 1832, on the bank of the Vermillion river, east of Williams' mill. The jury held its deliberations on a lot of saw logs which lay on the bank of the river. Nicholas Hefner officiated as sheriff and James Campbell as prosecuting attorney. The log cabin cannot be what is properly termed a court house nor the saw-logs a jury room any more than the Odd Fellows' hall, Dehner's hall or the Methodist church could be so called, because the courts were held there while the present court house was being built in the years 1874-75.

The first court house building was erected in Pontiac in 1839-40. Messrs. Henry Weed, Lucius Young and Seth Young were the owners of the townsite of Pontiac, and entered into an agreement with the county commissioners to donate a block of ground on which a suitable building should be erected for that purpose. They also agreed to give the county the sum of \$3,000, an acre of land not more than thirty rods from the court house for the erection of a jail and an estray pen, and to build a good and substantial bridge across the Vermillion at or near that point. The commissioners accepted the proposition of the Messrs. Youngs and Weed, and they gave bond for their faithful performance of the contract, signed by themselves as principals, and C. H. Perry, who was the first merchant in the county, James McKee, who was then part owner of the mill property, and Jesse W. Fell, as sureties.

On December 3rd, 1839, the county commissioners entered into a contract with Messrs. Weed and the Youngs for the construction of the court house, which was to be 20 x 30 feet, two stories high; to be built and completed within twelve months after "there is sufficient rise in the Vermillion river to allow the proprietors of the saw mill to put said mill in operation."

John Foster, who arrived here in 1836, was the builder, and the price agreed upon was \$800. The building was erected in due time, being

completed in 1841, and occupied for the first time July 23rd, 1842. It was a very modest and unpretentious affair, but fulfilled every requirement in those days, and there was no dissatisfaction expressed. The building was removed to the lot on which now stands the First Methodist church, in 1856, to make room for a larger and more pretentious one, as the county had settled up rapidly.

Court was held in the old building and it was regularly used until the new one was completed. After the completion of the new building, the old one was used for many years as a school house and, in the late '60s, was used as a city hall and headquarters of the volunteer fire department. When the Methodist church bought the property, the old court house building was removed one block east, where it was transformed into a dwelling house, and a few years ago it was again placed on rollers and moved to the northeastern part of the city on Hazel street, and is now occupied as a dwelling. The frame of the old structure is still in a good state of preservation.

Judge Samuel H. Treat of Springfield, who afterwards became quite a noted man, presided as judge in this court house, as did also Judge Edwin S. Leland of Ottawa, one of the leading lawyers of Illinois for some time afterwards.

During this period, only a few lawyers were located in Pontiac, most of the attorneys coming from Bloomington and Ottawa. Simeon De Witt and McGregor and Dart were the leading attorneys of Pontiac at that time.

1857—SECOND COURT HOUSE.—1874.

The second court house was erected in Pontiac in 1856, at a cost of \$14,000. After the building was completed, there was considerable dissatisfaction manifested by the people, not alone in Pontiac, but all over the county. It was built of brick, and many thought it larger and more expensive than necessary. It was openly charged at the time that the building could have been erected for less than \$10,000, provided the proposals were put in the usual form. Besides being the court house, it was used for entertainments of all kinds, including traveling companies, and many people who afterwards became famous as entertainers before the people of the country have given exhibitions there. The court room was used as a hall, and those denominations of Christians without houses of worship, found it a

very convenient place to hold their services. Like the preceding court house, all public meetings of citizens were held within its walls, as were also the exhibitions given by the public schools of Pontiac, many of the scholars, who are now considered old settlers of the county, making their debut before the public there. In one room was located the Pontiac post office, while some of the practicing attorneys occupied the offices in the building not occupied by regularly elected officials.

After the Civil War the county began to settle up rapidly, and it was soon realized that the building was all too small and insignificant looking for a county which was now certainly destined to be one of the leading in the state. Located on the southeast corner of the square were the closets in connection with the building. This was an eyesore to every one in the county, and particularly so to the citizens of Pontiac who lived near the square, and when the building burned to the ground on July 4th, 1874, a large majority of the citizens of Pontiac viewed the ruins with feelings of joy and gladness.

While this court house was being erected Judge Lee, one of the prominent men of the county and who held the office of county judge, planted the trees in the yard which at the present time are so much admired by our citizens and visitors to the county seat. The Judge secured the services of Luke Jordan, who still resides in this township on a farm west of the city, to assist him. The judge and Mr. Jordan repaired to the timber on the bank of the river and selected the trees and in time they were duly planted. The trees were planted in straight rows along the sides of the square while on the inside they were scattered about promiscuously. They were planted thick, and as they grew in size they shaded the yard completely. On the day the court house burned, most all of the trees on the east and north side of the building were destroyed, but those on the west side were saved and stand to-day as a living monument to the great foresight of Judge Lee and his valued assistant, Luke Jordan. Judge Lee and Luke Jordan never received a word of thanks or a word of mention from the county officials in those days—in fact, the people of that time (1856) made light of their efforts and they were ridiculed for their trouble. How different it is to-day! And when it is generally known who did

this great work for posterity, the people will surely extend their heartiest blessing.

1875.—THIRD COURT HOUSE.

All three of our court houses have been erected on the square bounded by Main, Madison, Mill and Washington streets. After the fire of July 4th, 1874, court was held in the basement of the Methodist church (since destroyed by fire), Dehner's hall (which has been entirely remodeled) and the Odd Fellows' hall on South Mill street. All the records of the various offices were saved from the fire and remain to this day intact. The various offices of the courts were distributed about town and business went on as usual in a few days after the fire occurred. The work of rebuilding the court house was immediately begun after the fire, and in nearly a year's time it was ready for occupancy. The building committee appointed by the board of supervisors to take charge of the work, consisted of James E. Morrow of Pontiac; Captain W. S. Sims of Pontiac; C. G. Greenwood of Charlotte; Edson Wilder of Waldo; Jacob Phillips of Newtown; and Colonel James B. Parsons of Dwight. To these gentlemen the people of Livingston county owe a debt of gratitude for the honest and conscientious discharge of an onerous public trust. If the board was wise in the selection of the plans, their wisdom did not then leave them, for, through their building committee they held the contractors to the exact line of their contract, permitting no changing of plans for the sake of increasing their bills. They started out with the motto, "No extras allowed here," and hung to it faithfully. They had, particularly Messrs. Morrow and Sims, who resided in Pontiac at that time, both of whom are now dead, who gave constant and careful examination of the work, seeing every piece of timber which went into the building and inspecting the work daily. The board of supervisors at once advertised for plans. Ten plans were offered, the estimated cost of which ranged from \$35,000 to \$65,000. The most difficult portion of the committee's labor was to decide which of the plans ought to be accepted; none of them answered the requirements exactly. A building was wanted which would accommodate the increasing population of one of the largest counties in the state, a county which at that time, it was thought, would soon be inhabited by over 75,000 people. Another difficulty was found in the fact that the blocks in the city of Pontiac are so small that

the proposed building would constantly be in danger of fire from the surrounding buildings. This fact, not generally known, called for additional thousands to render the building fire-proof. The selection of the plan furnished by Architect J. C. Cochrane, of Chicago, was the result of long and careful study, and a belief that while it cost more money it was the only one which for size, fire-proof qualities and solidity, would answer the purpose, and was, indeed, in the matter of taste and elegance, much in advance of any other, which, with the assurance from the architect that the building could be put up for less than \$70,000, settled the question.

On the second day of October, 1874, the contract for the building was let to Colwell, Clark & Co., of Ottawa, upon good and sufficient bond signed by the Hon. Washington Bushnell. The work was at once commenced, and with the exception of the three winter months, was constantly pushed to completion. The supervisors accepted the court house from the contractors on Friday, November 5, 1875, and the building was thrown open to the public on Saturday afternoon. As there was a large crowd in Pontiac during the afternoon the building was filled by an admiring throng. (See cut of Court House.)

A description of the building and grounds as it stands to-day would not be amiss in these pages. The right hand front is the west side of the building, having an extreme length, from the corners of the corner towers, of 140 feet. The left hand front is the north end, being eighty-six feet. The east and south fronts are identical with those in view. The height to the top of the flag-staff is as follows: Basement, 9 feet; first story, 17 feet; second story, 26 feet; and above this, including attic; approach to the belfry, lookout, dome and flag-staff, 98 feet; total 150 feet.

The exterior of the building presents a beautiful and neat appearance. Six feet of the basement is of stone; above that to the eaves, is of pressed brick, with cut stone corners and window trimmings, the brick work painted and tuck-pointed. The cornices and protections of dormer and roof windows, as well as the corners of the roof, are of galvanized iron, neatly painted in stone colors, which when first completed were capped with fancy iron fence work. The roofs are slate. All the work around the windows of the dome is of galvanized iron, and presents the appearance of cast iron.

The basement is divided into numerous large

rooms for the use of boilers, storing coal, and for extra vaults for records. In the basement on the south is located an elegant rest room for the women, while at the north end is located the toilet rooms for the men.

The ground story is approached by stone steps leading through the porticos into the main halls, which are ten and twelve feet wide, respectively. Passing in at the north door we have on the left, first, the county clerk's office and its vault; second, the board of review's office and vault, these two occupying the northeast quarter of the building opposite; occupying the northwest quarter are the offices of the county judge and state's attorney. The southwest quarter of the building, consisting of two large rooms and a vault, is occupied by the circuit clerk's office. The southwest quarter of the building, consisting of two large rooms with vault and closet, is occupied by the sheriff and county treasurer. These eight main offices are about 20 x 40 feet, and are beautifully lighted, are high, and the doors are all wood work, neatly trimmed with heavy black walnut moulding. The vaults are thoroughly fire-proof, the windows being protected by heavy iron shutters, and the entrance by steel doors. Passing from the north, and passing the county court room, you meet the broad winding stairs by which you reach the second story at the north door of the large court room, one of the finest court rooms in central Illinois. There is also a similar flight of stairs leading to the south door of this room. The stairways are wide and nice, finished in ash and walnut, the wainscoting being in pine and walnut. The court room occupies the center of the building and is 46 x 78, and 25 feet high, with three windows in either end, which are about 5 x 20 feet, giving a pleasant light from the east and west, with no noon-day sun. The judge's bench is on the east side, with the desks of the sheriff and clerk adjoining on the south.

The court stenographer's desk adjoins the judge's bench on the north in close proximity to the witness stand, while the seats for jury are just next, being separated by a railing. The seats occupied by the jury are models of excellence and very comfortable.

The bar occupies about twenty feet of the space in front of the bench, the remainder of the room being seated on the floor with up-to-date opera chairs. Just back of the auditorium are the sleeping rooms of the jurymen, in which are placed twelve iron beds. North of the court room

the space is divided into two large rooms for the use of the grand and petit jurors and supervisors, and four small rooms for the use of the court stenographer, juries and witnesses. South of the court room are, first, the ante-room and then the library and judge's room. Just across the hall is located the office of the county superintendent of schools.

A more admirable division of space could hardly be made. All these rooms are fitted up in the very nicest style in hard wood finish. The entire building is now lighted with electricity, but when it was first occupied gasoline was used.

When the building was completed, the committee intrusted with the work of purchasing furniture contracted with A. H. Andrews & Co. of Chicago, for black walnut furniture to supply the entire building and the seats for the court room for \$3,485. They also contracted with J. Davidson of Joliet for stone walks from the gates to the steps. Since that time, however, the benches in the court room have been replaced with up-to-date seats and the furniture and fixtures in the various offices have been taken out and removed, and in their stead now one finds modern equipment. The stone in the yard has been taken up and cement walks have been added, greatly beautifying the square.

The building cost, including furniture and heating apparatus and gas lighting, when accepted from the contractors, in round numbers, \$75,000. Only \$50 was allowed for extra work.

A singular commentary on the building is, that no sooner was it accepted and paid for, than the contractors were called into a court of bankruptcy. It is believed that they lost \$15,000 on the job.

In 1906, the board of supervisors passed a resolution forbidding the use of the building for public assemblies and conventions, which had been in vogue ever since the completion of the first court house.

Court convened in this court house January 3rd, 1876, the following officers of the court being present: Nathaniel J. Pillsbury, Judge; James A. Fellows, Clerk; James R. Wash, Deputy; Benjamin E. Robinson, Sheriff, and James H. Funk, State's Attorney.

The first trial before a jury was held on January 5, 1876, it being an appeal case in forcible entry and detainer—Isabel Harbison vs. Christian Stine. R. S. McIlhuff and L. G. Pearre of Dwight were the attorneys for the plaintiff, while

S. S. Lawrence and C. C. Strawn appeared for the defendant. The jury was composed of the following gentlemen: A. G. Goodspeed, Charles Chalker, J. H. Beaks, Edward Tucker, Samuel McCormick, David Wright, Thomas C. Kidder, Alexander Algie, Jacob Vreeland, W. B. Tucker, L. K. Wescott and A. C. Roelts. W. E. Baker, the present city collector of Pontiac, and one of the early settlers of the county, was the first witness sworn to testify in behalf of the plaintiff. The case had not proceeded far when Judge Pillsbury ordered a recess of a few minutes that a picture could be taken of the assembly, which was done. A very few of the photographs are now in possession of the original owners.

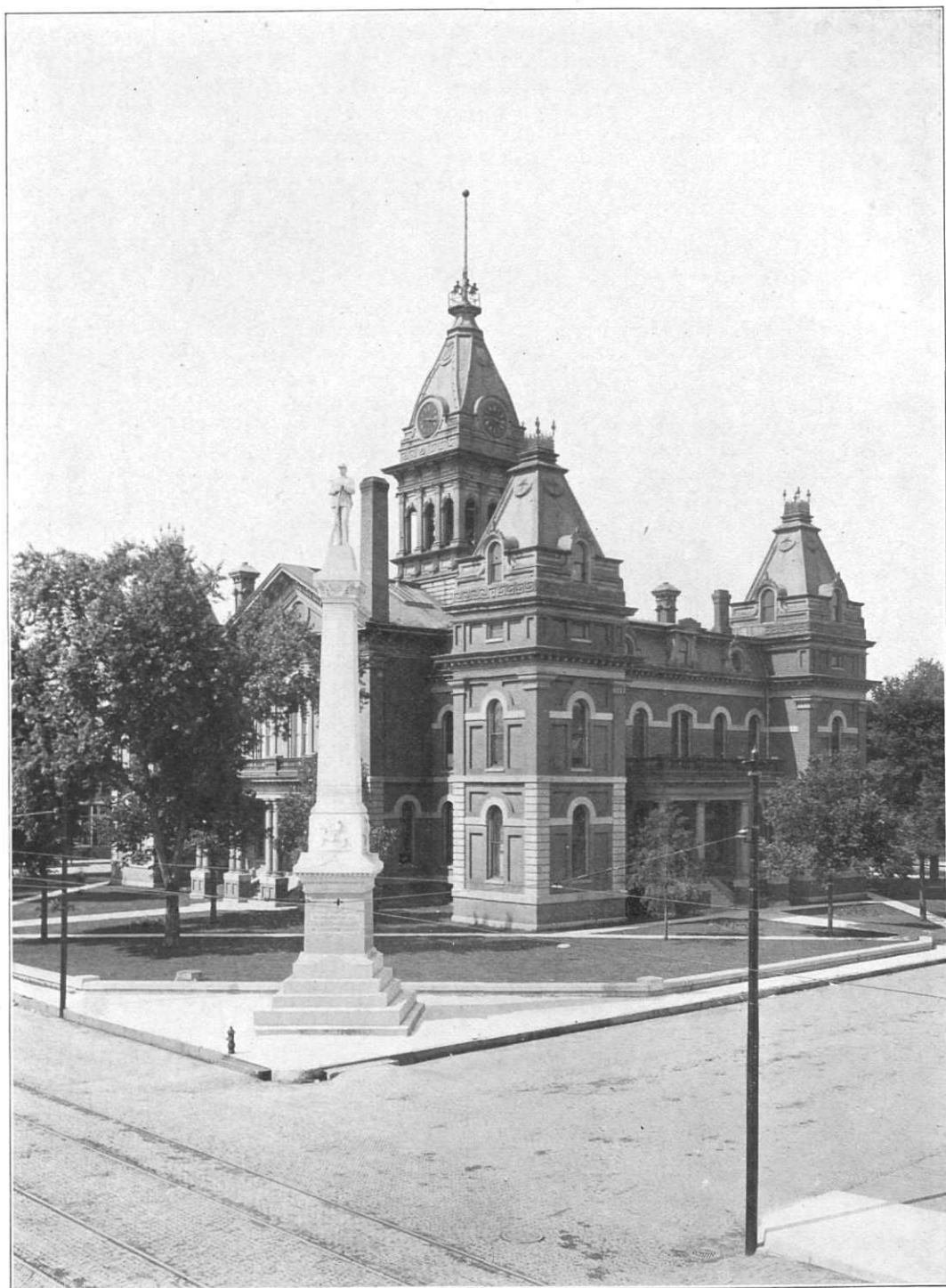
The following is the present official list of Livingston County:

Circuit Judge, Hon. George W. Patton; County Judge, Ulysses W. Louderback; State's Attorney, Bert W. Adsit; County Clerk, W. W. Kenney; deputies, J. F. Langford and Fred Dewey; Circuit Clerk, J. G. Whitson; deputies, Fred Ludwick and Carl Scatterday; County Treasurer, Albert F. Mette; deputy, Lewis S. Henderson; Sheriff, James W. Morris; deputy, W. H. Patterson; Court Bailiff, James H. Gaff; Coroner, W. E. Slyder; County Surveyor, D. J. Stanford; Superintendent of Schools, W. E. Herbert; assistants, Alice Herbert and Gertrude Gregg; Master-in-Chancery, Herbert E. Torrance; Court Stenographer, Miss Ada Herbert.

FIRST COUNTY JAIL.

Although Livingston County was organized in 1837, not until 1866, just thirty years later, was a jail constructed and ready for occupancy. Previous to this time, all persons arrested in the county for a crime were taken to Bloomington and lodged in the jail there. The exterior of the building was quite attractive and presented the appearance of being one of solidity. It was two stories high, 35x50 feet upon the ground, and was built of massive stone, the walls being eighteen inches thick, and cost the county something near \$32,000. The interior was divided into two portions, the front of the building being occupied by the sheriff and his family, but many years later the family quarters of the sheriff were moved into a substantial brick house adjoining the jail on the west, and that portion altered and made into rooms for women, boys and the insane.

The rear portion was divided into cells, twelve



COURT HOUSE BUILT IN 1875-6

in number, six below and six above, with an iron staircase leading to the upper tier. The floors and ceilings were of stone, the furniture of the cells was of iron, and the building was thoroughly fire-proof. The windows were protected by heavy double iron grates. The entire accommodating capacity was twenty-four inmates, and the prisoners were allowed to mingle together freely during the day and have ample exercise in the corridors. Notwithstanding the solid appearance of the building outwardly, the interior was faulty in construction and many prisoners confined therein made their escape, some of them never after being heard from. Those defects were remedied at intervals at no small cost to the taxpayers, but prisoners made their escape just the same and continued so to do until the jail was partially torn down and remodeled during the year 1906-07 at a cost of over \$30,000. An additional story was added, separate apartments for the insane, women and boys also provided, the whole being made sanitary throughout.

CHAPTER VIII.

RAILROADS—BANKS—PUBLIC UTILITIES.

RAILROADS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—SIX MAIN LINES PENETRATE THE COUNTY, AGGREGATING 240 MILES—LIST OF LINES AND STATIONS—BANKING HISTORY—LIST OF NATIONAL AND STATE BANKS—THEIR FOUNDERS AND PRESENT OFFICERS—EARLY MAIL ROUTES—RURAL FREE DELIVERY—TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES.

There are 240 miles of railroad in Livingston County, more than any other county in the state, with the exception of three. There is not a place in the county that is over six miles in a direct line from a railroad track, or over eight miles from a station.

The Wabash railroad has the largest mileage in the county, sixty-five and one-half miles, of which thirty-six and one-half miles are on the Chicago branch and twenty-nine miles on the

Streator branch. The Chicago branch enters the county at the northeastern corner and crosses the entire eastern portion of the county. The stations along this line are Campus, Cardiff, Emington, Scovel, Saunemin, Wing, Forrest, Risk and Strawn. The Streator branch extends from Streator to Fairbury, from which point the trains use the road-bed of the T. P. and W., connecting with the main line at Forrest. The stations on this branch are Manville, Cornell, Rowe, Pontiac, McDowell, Lodemia, Fairbury and Forrest.

The Illinois Central has sixty-two miles of its road in Livingston County. The Kankakee branch, or Middle Division, extends through the center of the county from east to west, thirty-six miles. The stations on this line are Flanagan, Graymont, Rooks Creek, Pontiac, Swygert, Rugby, Eylar, Spires, Scovel and Griswold. This line joins the Bloomington branch at Kempton Junction, near the county line. The Bloomington branch runs in a southwesterly direction through the southeastern part of the county, twenty-six miles. The stations in the county on this line are Cullom, Charlotte, Chatsworth, Risk and Rosalthe.

The main line of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, crosses the county in a southwesterly direction from Dwight to Chenoa, twenty-nine miles. The Peoria branch runs along the northern edge of the county from Dwight to Streator. Twenty-two and three-fourth miles of this branch are in this county. The stations on the main line in the county are Dwight, Odell, Cayuga, Pontiac and Ocoya. The stations on the Peoria branch are Nevada, Blackstone and Smithdale.

The Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, a short line running from Streator, Ill., to South Bend, Ind., passes through the county from Streator to Reddick. Thirty miles of its line are in this county. Its stations are Missal, Budd, Adams, Sunbury, Dwight and Wilson.

The Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad, passes in almost a due east and west line through the southeastern part of the county, a distance of eighteen miles. Its stations in this county are Fairbury, Forrest and Chatsworth.

The line of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad crosses Livingston County diagonally in the northwestern part, passing through the townships of Reading and Long Point, the total length of its main tracks in the county being fourteen miles. Its stations in Livingston County are Reading, Ancona and Long Point.

BANKS.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY NATIONAL BANK—1871.

Prior to 1871, Pontiac had one private bank, but there was urgent need of a national bank in the county, and in the spring of 1871 several of the citizens of Pontiac made an application to the bank department for starting a national bank there, under a new law to equalize the distribution of currency. The permit was granted, after some skirmishing as to who should have control of it. On the 24th of April, 1871, the organization was effected by the election of the following directors: Elbridge G. Keith, J. L. Woodward, and Henry Greenebaum of Chicago; Joseph M. Greenebaum, John Dehner, William B. Lyon, Stephen C. Crane, Joseph F. Culver and Jacob Houder of Pontiac. At a subsequent meeting of the directors, Elbridge G. Keith was elected president; Joseph M. Greenebaum, vice-president; Henry G. Greenebaum, cashier, and D. C. Eylar, teller. The capital stock of \$50,000 was all paid in and on Monday July 3, 1871, having received their currency from Washington, the Livingston County National Bank opened its doors to the public. All of these officials, with the one exception of D. C. Eylar, are dead. In time, Mr. Eylar became president of the bank and served as such until 1908, when he was superseded by Curtis J. Judd, of Dwight, who now holds the majority of the stock. The present officials are: Curtis J. Judd, president; J. M. Lyon, cashier; Erastus Hoobler, vice-president; board of directors: E. Hoobler, D. M. Lyon, C. J. Judd, A. C. Norton, A. Fischer, J. M. Lyon and James A. Hoover.

NATIONAL BANK OF PONTIAC—1874.

During the years 1872-73, business of all kinds was good in Pontiac and the surrounding country. Some of the leading business men of the community got together and circulated a petition to start another national bank. The capital stock was soon all subscribed for and at a meeting of the stockholders held on Tuesday, **March 24, 1874**, for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization, elected the following officers:

President, James E. Morrow; vice-president, Lester E. Kent; cashier, Ogden P. Bourland; board of directors, James E. Morrow, L. E. Kent, Albert Lawrence, Joseph C. Morrison, Billings P. Babcock, Dr. S. E. Holtzman and O.

P. Bourland. All of the first officials of the bank, with the exception of two, O. P. Bourland and S. E. Holtzman, are dead. On April 3, 1874, the National Bank of Pontiac opened its doors to the public. O. P. Bourland has been with the bank from the day it opened its doors and is now president, James T. Croswell is vice-president; C. R. Tombaugh, cashier; board of directors: O. P. Bourland, J. T. Croswell, S. A. Rathburn, H. Landauer, C. A. Rollins and C. R. Tombaugh.

PONTIAC STATE BANK

The Pontiac State Bank was the first bank organized in Pontiac to receive its charter from the state of Illinois. The organizers were among the leading financiers and business men of Pontiac, which assured its success from the start. The bank was organized in January, 1899, with a capital stock of \$30,000, the stockholders all residing in Pontiac. At the first meeting of the stockholders David S. Myers was elected president; C. W. Sterry, vice-president; W. F. Van Buskirk, cashier, and the following board of directors: C. W. Sterry, D. S. Myers, Harriet Humiston, A. M. Legg, C. E. Legg and W. F. Van Buskirk. Since the bank was first organized but two changes have been made in the officials, A. M. Legg being elected vice-president on the death of C. W. Sterry, and William J. Butler advanced to cashier on the resignation of W. F. Van Buskirk, in 1907. The present officials are: D. S. Myers, president; A. M. Legg, vice-president; W. J. Butler, cashier; Charles E. Myers, assistant cashier; board of directors: Mrs. H. Humiston, C. E. Legg, A. M. Legg, John S. Murphy, D. S. Myers, S. F. Snyder, Dr. Charles H. Long.

ILLINOIS STATE SAVINGS BANK

The Illinois State Savings Bank was organized in Pontiac, on May 12, 1903, and opened its doors for business on the 15th day of June. At the first meeting of the stockholders, E. M. Johnson was elected president; A. W. Cowan and H. G. Greenebaum, vice-presidents; M. H. Greenebaum, cashier; Jacob C. Greenebaum, assistant cashier; board of directors: R. S. McIlhuff, E. M. Johnson, A. W. Cowan, A. C. Norton, Dr. J. A. Marshall, H. G. Greenebaum, E. O. Reed, J. C. Greenebaum, Rudolph Fox and M. H. Greenebaum. Since the organization of

the bank, no changes have been made in the officials.

The pioneer bankers of Pontiac were Duff and Cowan, who commenced business in the early '60s. In 1870 this firm met with reverses and the bank was closed. James E. Morrow was appointed receiver, and a few years later settled with every depositor in full.

Joseph F. Culver and his brother, Charles, were also among the pioneers in the banking business in Pontiac, commencing business in the early '70s. During the panic of 1877, the firm closed its doors, and shortly afterwards an amicable settlement was made with the creditors.

Since 1877 there has not been a bank failure in Pontiac. During the panic of 1893-94, there was not a dollar withdrawn from the bank, and its effects were in no ways noticeable in this community. During the financial flurry of 1907-08, the people had no fears as to the safety of their money and every bank in the city paid every check in full, not one of the four banks putting a limit on the amount to be withdrawn, as was done in many places all over the state of Illinois. All four banks are conducted along conservative lines and have the confidence of the entire community.

EARLY MAIL ROUTES.

Prior to the advent of railroads in this part of the state, mail was received in the post offices established in the home of one of the settlers in each township. The principal mail routes in an early day were the ones from Danville to Ottawa and from Danville to Bloomington. What few mails were then brought to this part of the country were brought on horseback, and though postage was three to five times what it is now, the mails were carried for a very small salary. The postboy, with his fleet horse and shrill horn to apprise the community of his approach, has become almost legendary, his place having been usurped by the steam horse and his fiery driver.

Among the first to carry the mail on the Danville-Ottawa route was William K. Brown, who came to this county in 1836 and located in the northwest corner of Esmen Township. It took him a week to make the trip. The only post offices in this county at that time on his route were New Michigan, Sunbury, Pontiac, Avoca and Oliver's Grove. He died on the old homestead in 1850.

Martin A. Newman was the first mail carrier on the Ottawa-Bloomington route. This was as early as 1837. At that time he was living in Ottawa. The country between these two places was but sparsely settled, there being but two post offices in this county on his route at that time, one at Pontiac and one in Newtown Township. He moved to this county in 1850 and in June of that year laid out the town of New Michigan, where he erected a store and engaged in merchandising, later moving onto his farm in Newtown Township.

George W. Rice, who located in Esmen Township in 1847, was also carrier on this route for many years. He moved to Pontiac in 1872, and since that time has been engaged in the furniture business.

In June, 1869, a mail route was established from Pontiac east to Clifton, Iroquois County, the post offices supplied in this county being Owego, Saunemin and Sullivan Center. Jeremiah Sylvester was the first carrier, leaving Pontiac on Tuesday and Clifton on Wednesday.

In September, 1871, a weekly mail route was established from Pontiac to Minonk. Miles Calkins was the first carrier.

James H. Nichols was postboy from 1851 to 1854, starting in at the age of fifteen years. He carried the mail from Ottawa to Oswego, Peoria and Bloomington, by way of Pontiac and Indian Grove. He did not become a resident of this county until 1875, when he removed to McDowell.

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

It has been but a few short years since the rural residents of Livingston County have been placed in touch with the city through the medium of rural free delivery of mail, yet the new order of things has grown so rapidly into the every-day life, that it would be difficult, indeed, to readjust their affairs and manner of living to the old system, were the postoffice department to suddenly order the discontinuance of rural free delivery. The first route established in Livingston County was in 1900, out of Fairbury, William E. Smith, being the first carrier, who made his initial trip September 1. Fifteen days later, Ford B. Johnson started out of Pontiac, covering a route of twenty-five miles, and at present there is scarcely a rural home in the entire county that is not reached every day by the rural letter carrier, placing the farmer who resides twenty miles from a postoffice on an

equal footing with the resident of the county seat, so far as keeping in touch with the affairs of the world are concerned. The introduction of rural free delivery has had the effect of discontinuing a few minor postoffices in the county, but the volume of mail handled through the postoffice department for farmer residents has been vastly increased. Put into plain figures, it is hard to grasp the vast growth of the rural free delivery system of the county since its establishment eight years ago.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES.

Following railroad construction, came the construction of telegraph lines, partly as an almost indispensable and, in railway operation, largely as a commercial enterprise. Now all railroad towns and some towns remote from railways have telegraph service. From the first introduction of the telephone in Livingston County in 1884, its growth, considering the great advantages to be derived, was slow, indeed. The first exchange was established in Pontiac, but was a failure, and the system was abandoned. It was owned by local capitalists, who sold the plant at a sacrifice. About 1890, the Central Union Telephone Company secured control and commenced to install its system, and had full control of all the lines in the county until 1900, when the different farmers' lines were organized. The Independent Telephone Company was given a franchise in 1906, and one year later commenced the installation of their system, which was completed and ready for service during the month of March, 1908, Pontiac being the only point at present where both the Bell and Automatic phones come in competition. Commencing in 1900, the development of the farmers', or rural lines, has been rapid. Lines now cover the entire county, penetrating even to otherwise isolated neighborhoods and affording immediate communication between sequestered farm houses and the centers of trade, finance and manufacture. The telephone has brought about a merging of city life and country life, that has materially benefited the towns and brought the people of rural districts into touch with the best elements in the commercial, financial, social and intellectual life of the cities.

CHAPTER IX.

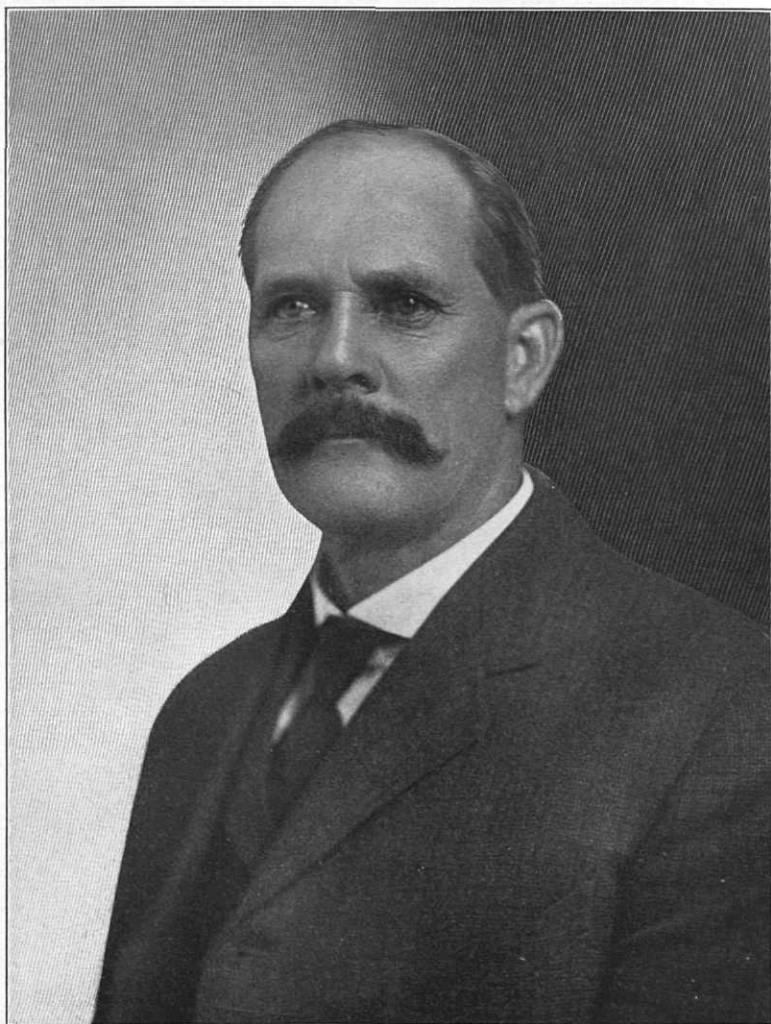
POLITICAL.

POLITICAL EVENTS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—CITIZENS WHO HAVE BEEN PROMINENT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POLITICAL PARTIES—THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION OF 1856—CONGRESSIONAL CONTESTS—THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS CAMPAIGN OF 1858—THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1860—SOME LATER ELECTION CONTESTS—JOHN WENTWORTH'S REMINISCENCES OF SOME EARLY CAMPAIGNS—CITIZENS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY—OFFICIAL VOTE OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN 1908.

Livingston County has no cause to feel proud of its political record, inasmuch as not one of its native sons was ever called upon by any political party to fill any office within the gift of the people higher than that of Congressman—Lewis E. Payson serving five terms from this district, being first elected to that position in 1881.

From the earliest settlement of the county in 1830 to the advent of the Chicago and Alton Railroad in 1854-'55, the population was small, the newspapers were few and poor, electioneering was almost entirely by personal solicitation and public address. Previous to 1857, the county was about evenly divided between the Whig and Democratic parties, and a politician in those days doubtless knew by name every voter in the county, and for the Legislature and other local offices people voted largely on their personal liking for the candidate, but as the population became larger and the political questions became more exciting, the voters clung more tenaciously to their party. This was eminently so during the war and the period immediately following, but as the war passions cooled, party allegiance slackened and independent voting, especially in local elections, became more common.

Although Livingston County was organized as a county in 1837, the settlement was slower than almost any other county in this section of the state, notwithstanding the fact the other counties were not organized until some years afterwards. At the first election held in the county in August, 1838, but 108 votes were cast, there



GEORGE H. BENNETT

being but three election precincts in the county—Indian Grove, Center (Pontiac) and Bayou.

Not until 1856 was there anything of a political nature in Livingston County worth recording. Previous to that time, the people always voted for what they considered the best man, but the county was now advancing, and in 1857 the proposition to organize by townships was carried by a large majority.

After the Republican State Convention in Bloomington in 1856, the Republican party was organized in Livingston County. James Stout, a radical Abolitionist, and a rising young attorney of Pontiac, was one of the leaders, while Orlando Chubbuck, Walter Cornell, William B. Lyon, Decatur Veatch, Jason W. Strévell, S. L. Manker, James W. Remick, W. G. McDowell, Joseph Woolverton, Eli Myer, John Dehner, Edwin R. Maples, Charles L. Paige, George Olmstead, John R. Wolgamott, Aaron Weider, Thomas Crosswell, David McWilliams, Robert Aeri, Jerome P. Garner, Ira Lovelace, George W. Boyer, William R. Fyfe and Andrew J. Cropsey were always prominent in the councils of the party and leaders in the various townships at that time.

The Democratic party was well organized in the county about this time, all of the county officials and post-masters being members of that organization. They were men of prominence and were among the early settlers of the county, including such men as V. M. Darnell, John Foster, Philip Rollins, Samuel C. Ladd, Jonathan Duff, A. E. Harding, Otho Pearre, Morris Johnson, Captain Morgan L. Payne, J. W. Youmans, Darius Johnson, William M. Brooks, Hugh McKee, William Spence, Jonathan Moore, Judge Henry Jones, T. W. Brydia, Caleb Patton, John L. Marsh, Robert B. Amsbary, Rufus W. Babcock and A. W. Cowan.

At the Republican State Convention held in Bloomington in 1856, there was a small representation from Livingston County in attendance, and when these returned, efforts were at once made to perfect a party organization and to establish a newspaper which would represent their views. The following year the paper was established (The Pontiac Sentinel) the money for the purchase of the material, etc., being subscribed by the leaders of the party throughout the county.

At this state convention, Abraham Lincoln was the guiding spirit, delivering what is now termed

the famous "lost speech," that rose to the heights of prophetic power, so carrying the audience away by his eloquence that the reporters, entranced, forgot to take notes.

Those present at the convention from this county brought back an entirely different version of the "lost speech," which has never heretofore appeared in print. While the speech in its entirety had the hearty approval of everyone present from the county, it was thought by a majority of the delegates present from all over the state, that the speech was too radical and would only result in the breaking up of the party at once. The reporters present were approached about the matter and agreed to destroy their notes of the speech, which was done, mention only being made of the proceedings of the convention.

In 1856, Livingston County was in the Third Congressional district, which was composed of the counties of Will, Kendall, Grundy, La Salle, Putnam, Bureau, Livingston, Iroquois, Vermilion, Champaign, McLean and DeWitt. On July 2 of that year the Republican convention met at Ottawa to nominate a candidate for Congress. Owen Lovejoy of Princeton, was nominated, his opponents being Leonard Sweet of Bloomington, and Jesse O. Norton of Joliet.

The northern part of the district was settled principally by northern people, who were strongly anti-slavery of the Lovejoy type. The southern part was settled largely from the South. Its anti-slavery opinions were more conservative than those of Henry Clay. Lovejoy was what might be called a constitutional Abolitionist. He did not believe with William Lloyd Garrison that the constitution was a covenant with the devil and a league with hell, but that properly interpreted, it was a document of liberty, while his principal opponent before the convention, Leonard Sweet, represented the conservative element in the party. A bolting convention was called to be held at Bloomington on the 16th of the same month, and Judge T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa, was nominated and a committee for an active canvass was selected. In the evening, there was a ratification meeting held in that city, which was addressed by Churchill Coffin of Peru, Judge Dickey and General Gridley. General Gridley was the last speaker to address the meeting and denounced Lovejoy as an Abolitionist, nigger thief, etc., and the meeting was declared adjourned, but immediately Lovejoy was

called and to the surprise of the audience, who did not know he was present, he took the stand. He had spent his life in the advocacy of an unpopular cause, often speaking before unfriendly and hostile audiences. He quickly proved himself an unrivalled orator. He acknowledged that the General Government had no power to interfere with slavery in the States, but claimed it had full control over that subject in the territories, that the fugitive slave law ought to be amended by giving the fugitive the right to testify and the right of trial by jury. As to being a "nigger thief," he said if by that was meant that he went to Kentucky or Missouri and induced slaves to run away, it was false, but "if it is meant when men and women come to my door and ask a crust of bread, a cup of water and point them to the North star, and I have had women come as white as your wife or mine, if you mean by that charge that I did give them bread and drink and point them to the land of liberty, if that is what you mean, I plead guilty." Then rising to the full height of impassioned eloquence and power, appealing to his audience, he said, "And who of you would not do the same?" The hearty applause showed that the appeal to the better nature of his audience had been successful. His speech was a masterly effort, the greatest of his life and had an electric effect upon his hearers. It was intensely dramatic, full of wit, declamation and pathos.

It killed the bolting convention, which was never heard of afterwards, and nearly all who participated in it became ardent supporters of Mr. Lovejoy. During the campaign following, Mr. Lovejoy visited this county and addressed the people from a platform erected in the court house yard. Pontiac has since then heard Douglas, Lincoln, Ingersoll, Tilton, Carey, Tillman, the great masters in public speaking, but never such an orator as Owen Lovejoy. Lovejoy carried Livingston County in 1856-'58 and '60, always by good majorities.

At the election held in Livingston County on Tuesday, November 3, 1857, the Democrats elected every member of their ticket, with the one exception of Joseph Woolverton of Reading Township, who defeated his Democratic opponent, James Gibson of Newtown Township, for county treasurer, by a majority of 41. Henry Jones was elected county judge and Jonathan Darnell and J. P. Morgan assistant judges, defeating Orlando Chubbuck, Decatur Veatch and

Jacob Angle, Republicans. S. S. Saul was elected county clerk, defeating S. F. Manker; James H. Hagerty defeated Jason W. Strevel for school commissioner, while Nelson Buck defeated James Stout for county surveyor.

In 1855 George W. Boyer was elected as a Republican to fill the office of county clerk. His health failed him and, instead of putting in a Republican as deputy, gave the office to S. S. Saul, a Democrat, thereby weakening the party to a great extent. Such an oversight enabled the Democrats to make capital out of the office. The swamp lands came into market, and all the energy of Saul, Jonathan Duff, A. E. Harding and others, was put forth to curry favor with the Republicans, knowing that their party was a minority in the county. It succeeded admirably, for the Republicans went down to defeat with the one exception noted.

At this election, there were but ten voting precincts in the county. With the total number of votes cast they were as follows; Indian Grove, 104; Avoca, 148; Center (Pontiac), 280; Mud Creek, 58; Bayou, 33; New Michigan 88; Reading, 129; Nebraska, 18; Dwight, 84; Day's 24.

The following spring there was a noticeable split in the Democratic party in the county, the administration wing headed by Jonathan Duff, postmaster at Pontiac, C. M. Lee, ex-County Judge, and C. J. Beattie. The Douglas wing was headed by Samuel C. Ladd, Drs. Johnson, Perry and Hulsey, Messrs., E. B. Oliver, and F. H. Bond. The administration wing secured control of the convention to nominate candidates for township offices, the first to be elected under township organization in the county. Judge Duff was nominated for supervisor; John W. Chappel for town clerk; Samuel McCormick for tax collector; C. M. Lee for assessor; Dr. G. J. Sweet for overseer of the poor; A. A. Eylar, Philip Rollins and Nelson Buck, commissioners of highways; Jacob Streamer and Philip Rollins, justices of the peace; E. C. Jones and A. J. Platt, constables. The Republicans presented a solid front and succeeded in electing their entire ticket, with three exceptions—justice of the peace, one commissioner of highways and one constable. Judge Duff was defeated. The split in the party at the county seat extended throughout the county and at each succeeding year thereafter the party pre-

MRS. GEORGE H. BENNETT



sented a divided front on the day of election and went down to defeat by large majorities.

After the township elections throughout the county came the Lincoln-Douglas campaign throughout the summer and fall. The Republicans were thoroughly organized from one end of the county to the other, and were rapidly receiving recruits from the democracy. Senator Douglas addressed his followers in Livingston County at Pontiac on August 19th, and was followed on September 21st by Owen Lovejoy.

At the election in November the Republicans carried the county by good majorities, Richardson S. Hick of Ancona being elected Representative from this (then the 43d) district. This was the third time that a citizen of this county was elected to either house of the General Assembly, Andrew McMillan being the first in 1842, Judge Eli Myer, the second in 1844, William T. Russell was elected sheriff and Dr. Thomas Crosswell, coroner, while Lovejoy was given a good majority.

The county convention to select delegates to the State and Congressional conventions was held in Pontiac, June 3, 1858. The State convention was held in Springfield and the Congressional in Joliet. William Russell, C. J. Beattie and Jerome Garner were selected for the State convention and Isaac G. Mott, Philip Cook and George W. Boyer to the Congressional. Jason W. Strevell, Jerome P. Garner, Charles J. Beattie, Philip Cook and John R. Wolgamott were appointed as the County Central Committee. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the Republicans of Livingston County stand with unwavering fidelity upon the platform and principles adopted at the conventions which assembled in Philadelphia and Bloomington; that we regard those principles as best adapted to the general welfare of the whole country, without regard to local or sectional differences.

"Resolved, That we heartily endorse the honorable and fearless course pursued by our faithful Senator in Congress, the Honorable Lyman Trumbull, and those Republicans who acted with him in opposition to the Lecompton and other Democratic frauds.

"Resolved, That the attempt to prostitute the national judiciary to the support of the institution of slavery, through the means of ex-

tra judicial decisions, deserves the condemnation of all honest men."

The convention of the anti-slavery or Abolition party was held in a grove near Bruce, La Salle county, on July 3, 1858. The convention was large and earnest, and characterized by great unanimity of views and feelings. It was not a political meeting, and was not called either to endorse or oppose any political party, but to give expression to the great cardinal truths of democracy according to the true meaning of that much-abused word. The convention was organized by choosing Moses Rummery, president, and H. H. Hinman, secretary. The following resolutions were presented and adopted:

"Resolved, That the immediate and entire abolition of slavery throughout the United States is the constitutional right and most imperative duty of the general government.

"Resolved, That the government of the United States, as at present administered, is in direct antagonism with the principles upon which it was founded and the purposes for which it was instituted, and every principle of justice, every impulse of humanity, and every instinct of self-preservation demands that it be radically reformed or utterly abolished.

"Resolved, That we repudiate all compromises with slavery, and every settlement of the slavery question other than by its immediate and entire abolition are an 'agreement with hell and a covenant with death,' and we pledge ourselves to labor unceasingly until liberty is proclaimed throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof.

"Resolved, That until the people of Illinois shall wipe out their foul black laws, and secure personal liberty to all fugitive slaves, they are directly responsible for the existence of slavery with all its inhuman wrongs.

"Resolved, That a religion that has no remonstrance against slavery, and no real sympathy with the slave, is a gross caricature of Christianity and deserves the execration and contempt of all believers in Christ."

The convention then listened to an able address by I. G. Mott on the general aspect of the slavery question. He was followed by Mr. Buckley in a good speech, after which the meeting adjourned to partake of a very good dinner, which had been made ready in the adjoining grove. After dinner, the resolutions were taken

up separately and discussed, and Otis Richardson made a very able and excellent speech, followed by William B. Fyfe, Rev. M. Harker, Mr. Buckley and Mr. Mott.

On Saturday evening, July 31, 1858, the first Republican club was organized in Livingston County at Pontiac. John Dehner was appointed chairman of the meeting and E. R. Maples, secretary. The object of the meeting was stated by the chairman, and on motion the "Lincoln Republican Club" was adopted as the name of the organization. The following named persons were then duly elected permanent officers: President, John Dehner; vice-president, Joshua Whitmore; secretary, E. R. Maples; assistant secretary, George W. Boyer. On motion, a committee of five was appointed by the chair to confer with the different townships in the county and to perfect a more thorough organization of the Republican party, whereupon the chair appointed the following gentlemen such committee: Jerome Garner, C. J. Beattie, John R. Wolgamott, George W. Boyer, Joshua Whitmore.

At a meeting of the Republicans of Avoca held at the school house Tuesday evening, August 24, 1858, for the purpose of organizing a club, Thomas G. McDowell was called to the chair, whereupon the meeting proceeded to elect officers, and the following gentlemen were chosen: President, Aaron Welder; vice-president, J. Barr; secretary, W. G. McDowell; township committee, T. H. O'Neal, R. B. Foster, M. Welder, M. Pearson, J. L. Crull.

On Saturday, August 21, 1858, the Republicans of Livingston County met at the Court House in Pontiac to nominate delegates to attend the assembly convention to be held at Ottawa on Thursday the 26th. A. J. Cropsey was elected chairman and Philip Cook, secretary. The following delegates were reported present: Dwight—I. G. Mott, John Eaton, O. Van Vrankin, Lewis Kenyon. Eppards Point—Otis Richardson, Thomas Virgin, D. W. Young, Thomas B. Cartwright. Pontiac—John Dehner, C. J. Beattie, R. D. McDonald, Philip Cook, E. R. Maples, H. G. Challis, Joseph R. Woolverton, Delos Robinson, J. W. Strevell. Belle Prairie—R. B. Harrington, B. Walton. Long Point—Orlando Chubbuck, Thomas Mills, C. Zeilman, James Albright. Indian Grove—A. J. Cropsey, William Mitchell, Decatur Veatch. Rooks Creek—William T.

Garner, R. W. McClelland, William Johnson, D. M. Breckenridge. Sunbury—Isaac Ames, Enos Thatcher, William B. Fyfe. Reading—C. R. Kyser, E. Evans, D. S. Byers, Jeremiah Mathis, William Stacy. Avoca—Aaron Welder, S. G. Crull, R. B. Foster, J. C. Dever, William Virgin, Perry Wallace. Newtown—John Hoobler, C. M. Follett, Otis Wheeling, Michael E. Collins, C. G. Cusick. Nevada—Samuel H. Kyle. Amity—Joseph Blake. Richardson S. Hick received the endorsement for representative, was nominated and elected. The delegates chosen were Orlando Chubbuck, I. G. Mott and C. J. Battle.

At a meeting called by the Republicans of the town of Rooks Creek held in Ruggle's school house, August 28, 1858, the following gentlemen were elected to act as officers of the Rooks Creek Republican Club: President, William T. Garner; vice-president, D. M. Breckenridge; secretary, R. W. McClelland; committeemen, Joseph Smith, R. D. Clark, F. Gorbett, William Johnson and James Marks.

1859.

The first county election was held on May 2, 1859, for the purpose of electing a County Judge to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Judge Henry Jones from the county. W. G. McDowell of Avoca was nominated by the Republicans and Charles M. Lee by the Democrats. The campaign was bitterly fought and was personal in the extreme. McDowell was elected by a majority of 39.

The county convention to nominate candidates for County Treasurer, School Commissioner and Surveyor met at the court house in Pontiac on August 27, 1859. Dr. C. M. Follett of Newtown was chairman, and R. B. Harrington secretary. Every township was represented, and Philip Cook was nominated for treasurer, Rev. I. T. Whittemore for school commissioner, and Eben W. Gower for surveyor.

The Democratic county convention met in Pontiac on Saturday, September 10, 1859. T. W. Brydla of Saunemin was elected chairman, and George W. Blakesley secretary. J. S. Gumm was nominated for county treasurer, T. F. Norton county surveyor, and A. E. Harding school commissioner.

The election resulted in a victory for the Republican ticket, Cook receiving 119 majority, Whittemore 112, and Gower 56.

1860.

The Republicans of Livingston County met in convention at Pontiac on Saturday, April 21, 1860, to select four delegates to attend the state convention to be held at Decatur on May 9. The convention was largely attended, delegates being present from every township in the county. J. W. Strevell, A. J. Cropsey, R. P. Morgan and William Gagan were selected as delegates, and the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved. That Abraham Lincoln is the choice of this convention for President of the United States.

"Resolved. That the Hon. Leonard Sweet of Bloomington is the unanimous choice of this convention as their candidate for Governor.

"Resolved. That this convention endorses in full the course of Owen Lovejoy, our representative in Congress.

"Resolved. That Lyman J. Trumbull's course as United States Senator from this state meets with our unqualified approbation."

The news of the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for President of the United States was received in Livingston County with unbounded enthusiasm. As soon as the news came over the wire, the Republicans of Pontiac commenced congregating in the court house square, an anvil was secured from Challis' blacksmith shop and one hundred times did it boom forth over our prairies, each time carrying with it the enthusiastic shouts of the Republicans. Evincing that a brighter day would yet dawn on our country, as soon as the first glorious shock had subsided, it was agreed on all hands that a ratification should be held at the court house in the evening. The boys "shelled out" liberally, and at an early hour the court house presented the appearance of a solid blaze, illuminated in every nook and corner, many people living away from the square supposing the building to be on fire, rushed to the scene. But the light of the candles was not all that added splendor to the occasion. The court house was full of spirited Republicans, whose greatest difficulty was to suppress the outbursting of overflowing feelings. Speeches worthy of the occasion were made by Jerome Garner, J. W. Strevell, R. B. Harrington and "Uncle" John Dehner, who was president of the meeting. The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That we endorse in full the platform and nominees of the National Republican Convention.

"Resolved, That in the selection of our chief-tain the convention expressed our first choice and greatest desire."

The resolutions were greeted with the wildest enthusiasm, and after three loud and long cheers for "Honest Old Abe," the meeting adjourned. In the meantime, a large bonfire had been kindled at the northwest corner of the square, and it was far into the night before the celebration was over.

The next evening, a Young Men's Republican Club was formed by electing Dr. Thomas Crosswell president; George W. Wolgamott and J. P. Garner, vice-presidents; M. E. Collins and John A. Fellows, secretaries; John Dehner, treasurer; and H. G. Challis and Fred Joerndt, stewards.

A Republican club was organized in every township in the county at once, and preparations were made to carry on the campaign.

The club in Esmen Township was composed of the following gentlemen as its officials: William R. Babcock, Samuel Kirkpatrick, Mr. Van Valkenburg, B. P. Babcock, James Day, Henry D. Marsh, C. W. Sterry, and Aaron Ross.

The officials of the Dwight Club were R. P. Morgan, Jr., J. G. Strong, W. H. Bradbury, John Staff and Jared B. Moss.

Indian Grove organized with the following officials: R. B. Amsbary, J. L. McDowell, Aaron Weider, J. F. Blackburn, R. G. Crouch, C. N. Baird, S. P. Kimball, W. G. McDowell, A. J. Cropsey, Decatur Veatch and William Bull.

Charles Hallam, Robert McKee, James Bradley, Liberty Louderback and James McKee were the officers of the club in Amity.

Thomas Mills, E. L. Stratton, Frederick Verner, officiated at Long Point.

T. B. Craycroft, A. H. Wagner, J. P. Stanard, Bishop Young and George Birch were officers at Ocoya.

The Republican county convention to nominate candidates for circuit clerk, sheriff and coroner and to select delegates to the congressional, senatorial and representative conventions met in Pontiac on Monday, June 18, 1860. S. L. Manker, of Pontiac, was made chairman, and E. J. Udell secretary of the convention. A. J. Cropsey of Fairbury was selected as Livingston County's choice for representative from the

district and was allowed to select his own delegates. Mr. Cropsey selected R. P. Morgan of Dwight, Joshua Whitmore, J. W. Strevell and William Gagan of Pontiac. David McWilliams of Dwight, Decatur Veatch of Indian Grove, J. W. Strevell and Philip Cook of Pontiac were selected as delegates to the congressional convention, and instructed to cast their ballots first, last and all the time for Owen Lovejoy. The following gentlemen were placed in nomination for circuit clerk: John R. Wolgamott and James W. Remick of Pontiac, G. S. Glenn of Dwight, William B. Lyons of Reading, and R. B. Harrington of Belle Prairie. Mr. Remick received the nomination on the fourth ballot. Edwin R. Maples was nominated by acclamation for sheriff. Dr. Darius Johnson was placed in nomination for coroner, but having recently become a convert to Republican principles, stated that he desired to serve the usual period of probation before aspiring to office, and nominated Dr. Thomas Crosswell, which nomination was made by acclamation.

A ratification meeting of the Republicans of Livingston County was held in Longnecker's Grove in Sunbury Township on Saturday, June 23, 2,000 people being present. Early in the morning Pontiac seemed astir, everybody apparently partaking of the enthusiasm, and many up to that moment who calculated upon remaining at home, changed their minds and commenced looking around in search of a conveyance. The procession from Pontiac was assembled and arranged in regular order under the direction of Joshua Whitmore, who was selected as marshal of the day. The great feature of the Pontiac procession was a large flat boat, built for the occasion under the superintendence of Job E. Dye, which was arranged on a wagon bed. The boat was fitted up with seats capable of accommodating about thirty persons, in which was seated the glee club under the direction of Messrs. Olmstead, Stanard, Brucker and Daman, who enlivened the ride by singing appropriate songs.

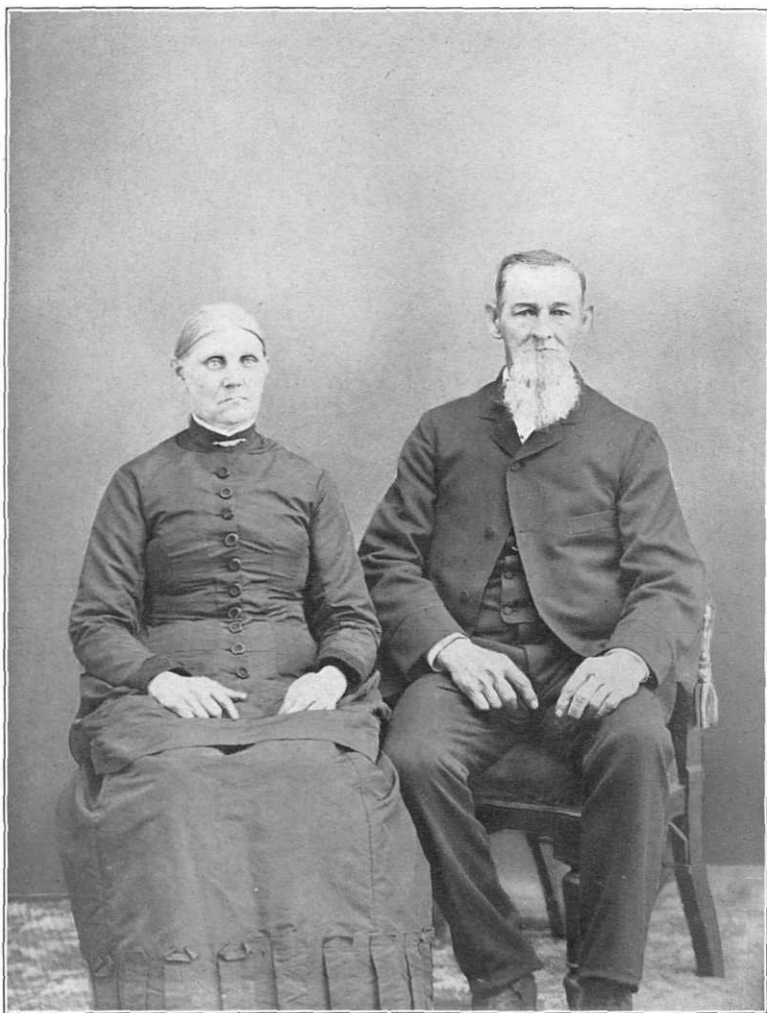
A splendid American flag was flying from a flagstaff placed in the center of the boat, a rail-fence being neatly fitted midway upon the staff. The boat was twenty feet long, on the sides of which was painted in large letters, "Lincoln and Hamlin, 1,000,000 of rails, Old Abe's Boat," and on the rudder the words, "Our way is clear." Job Dye and Seymour Bennett navi-

gated the concern safely to the place assigned for the meeting. The procession was quite lengthy, and with numerous flags and banners thrown to the breeze, made quite a brilliant appearance upon leaving town. The time of departure was about 8 o'clock, and after a pleasant ride of over three hours across the prairie, the Pontiacers came in sight of the grove, where they were joined by the Nevada Republican Club, who were drawn up in waiting. They had a very fine banner on which was inscribed "Nevada Republican Club, Lincoln."

In a few minutes after starting from this point, the delegates were met by Messrs. Fyfe, Gower and Cummings, who came out to meet and escort them to the grove. Arriving on the grounds, three rousing cheers were given by the vast assemblage for Lincoln and Hamlin, and the whole Republican ticket.

The Esmen and Sunbury clubs were on the grounds in full force, having arrived some time in advance of the Pontiac Club. The energy and determination of the Sunbury people were visible in the excellent manner in which their arrangements were completed, and a debt of gratitude was certainly due them from every friend of the Republican cause. It required no trifling amount of labor to prepare the grounds, arrange the tables, erect a splendid platform, and decorate it in the manner in which they did. But whatever may be due to the gentlemen of Sunbury for their efforts, the ladies of the town and vicinity, upon whom the heavy burden fell of preparing an excellent dinner for the multitude present, deserved a double amount of thanks. It was no small task for a thinly-settled town like Sunbury to feast a crowd such as was assembled on that day, and the example they set is really worthy of all praise. The committee who had charge of the affair were Asa Blakeslee, Isaac Ames, Eben Wicks, Eben Gower, assisted by their ladies.

Washington Bushnell, of Ottawa, was to have addressed the gathering, but he failed to show up and the Hons. A. J. Cropsey and J. W. Strevell were substituted to address the people at the forenoon meeting. After these gentlemen were through, the crowd then adjourned to two monstrous tables, each 125 feet long, ranged side by side and completely loaded down with the good things of life, and everyone went away satisfied, sufficient being left to supply another meeting. Other prominent speakers of the



MR. AND MRS. JOHN BENNETT

county addressed the afternoon meeting, the proceedings of which were greatly enlivened by the singing of the Pontiac Glee Club, the whole audience joining in on the chorus.

On Monday, July 16, 1860, the Republicans of Pontiac held a grand ratification meeting. The meeting in the afternoon was addressed by the Hon. Leonard Sweet, of Bloomington, and was held in a grove where now stands the homes of Mrs. C. W. Sterry and Dr. Charles H. Long. During the meeting the Bloomington "Wide Awakes," under Captain Brown, arrived in town and were met by the marshals and escorted up to the grounds where Mr. Sweet was speaking, and upon their arrival three rousing cheers were given by the audience for them, which were returned by the "Wide Awakes" in three more for Abe Lincoln.

The Pontiac Glee Club under J. W. Daman, sang a spirited campaign song, after which the Bloomington "Wide Awakes" followed suit with another. Mr. Sweet ceased speaking during these proceedings but recommenced immediately after, and continued for perhaps an hour longer in his usual strain of eloquence. In the evening General Scott, of Bloomington, addressed an immense crowd in front of the court house. General Scott's effort was a brilliant one, indeed, carefully prepared and well digested, and delivered in excellent style. The Bloomington "Wide Awakes" went through their drill in the court yard just previous to Mr. Scott's speaking, and showed themselves to be thoroughly drilled and disciplined. The marshal of the day was Joshua Whitmore, assisted by the following aides: John R. Wolgamott, John A. Fellows, James W. Remick, W. H. Stevens, L. E. Kent, Wallace Lord, Joseph R. Woolverton and William Garner.

The following week a company of "Wide Awakes" was organized in Pontiac.

Jonathan Duff, the leader of the administration forces of the Democratic party in Livingston County, was elected county judge in 1861, while his able assistant, Nelson Buck, was elected county surveyor. Samuel Maxwell, a comparatively new settler of the county, also a Democrat, was elected county treasurer. Robert B. Harrington was elected county clerk, and John W. Smith school commissioner, they being Republicans and among the early organizers of the party in Livingston County.

Job E. Dye was elected sheriff and Thomas

Croswell coroner, in 1862, both being active Republicans and leaders in the "Wide Awake" movement in 1860.

In 1863 the Republicans elected Michael E. Collins county treasurer, while the Democrats secured the election of Nelson Buck as county surveyor, and O. F. Pearre school commissioner.

Lincoln and Johnson carried Livingston County in 1864 by a good majority. William T. Ament was elected state's attorney, Dr. E. W. Capron coroner, and Amos Hart sheriff, all being Republicans. Six weeks after his inauguration Lincoln was assassinated and Andrew Johnson became President. Johnson made a tour of the North, accompanied by General Grant and Admiral Farragut. The military and naval heroes of the war were everywhere received with the greatest demonstration of joy, while the President was jeered and scarcely allowed to speak at all. At the request of Jonathan Duff and other leading Democrats of Pontiac, Dr. J. W. Youmans, also one of the leaders of the Democracy in the county, was appointed postmaster of Pontiac by President Johnson. The appointment of Dr. Youmans met with decided opposition from all directions and he never assumed active charge of the office, C. A. McGregor and Hugh L. Miller being designated by the leaders of the Democracy for this purpose. In 1866 Dr. Youmans became involved in serious trouble, left Pontiac never to return, and Mr. McGregor was appointed to fill the unexpired term.

Joseph F. Culver, who became a Republican in 1864, casting his first vote for the party that year, was elected county judge by the Republicans in November, 1865. R. B. Harrington was re-elected county clerk; H. H. Hill, county superintendent of schools, and Alfred Huetson county surveyor, all being Republicans. Hugh Thompson, of Dwight, was elected by the Democrats as county treasurer, by a small majority.

In the campaigns of 1866-67 the Republicans were successful, James H. Gaff being elected sheriff; Thomas Croswell, coroner; William B. Fyfe, treasurer; and A. C. Huetson, surveyor.

In 1868 the national convention of the Republicans nominated General Grant, and the Democrats Governor Seymour of New York. Grant was elected, carrying Livingston by a good majority, the following county ticket being elected: state's attorney, Mason B. Loomis;

circuit clerk, James E. Morrow; sheriff, George Wentz.

In 1869 the Republicans were again successful, electing their entire ticket. Byron Phelps, county clerk; A. C. Huetson, surveyor; Aaron Welder, treasurer; Lewis E. Payson, county judge, and H. H. Hill school commissioner.

In 1870 the Democrats were successful, electing John W. Hoover sheriff and J. J. Wright coroner, by small majorities. Mr. Hoover was a farmer of Nebraska Township and proved a most capable official. On assuming charge of the office he became a citizen of Pontiac and has resided here since that time. After his retirement from the sheriff's office he engaged in the grocery business, became chief of the fire department and supervisor of Pontiac Township, the duties of which he has discharged to the general satisfaction of all concerned.

Aaron Welder was re-elected county treasurer, and A. C. Huetson county surveyor, by the Republicans in 1871, M. K. Wright being elected coroner.

James H. Funk was elected state's attorney, Benjamin E. Robinson sheriff and John A. Fellows circuit clerk in 1872, all being Republicans.

In December, 1872, a movement took form which, within a year, politically revolutionized the county. The year had been a bountiful one in the production of the staple crop of the county—corn. During several preceding years the crop had been meager, and prices had ruled high. With this year's extraordinary yield, the prices fell to the lowest known since the general settlement of the county. It was believed that in justice the railroads ought to reduce their rates, and at least divide the losses which the farmers, their chief patrons, were meeting in selling their chief crop at ruinous prices. About this time the Legislature had passed a law requiring all railroads and warehouses to reduce their rates. The law was openly defied, and suits were at once commenced on the part of the people of the state to compel a compliance with the law. It took two bushels of corn to pay the freight on one to tide water. With foreclosures staring many citizens in the face and inability to pay their just debts, with the largest crop they ever raised in their possession, their minds were naturally led toward political action. While in other counties the matter was hardly thought of, in this the entire community was aroused to seek any relief they

could find. A few citizens of Pike Township met together and called a county convention to demand a redress of grievances.

The convention met in Pontiac on Monday, January 6, 1873. Joseph H. Stitt, of Nebraska, was made chairman; S. T. K. Prime of Dwight, and E. M. Johnson and A. W. Kellogg, of Pontiac, secretaries. Delegates were present from twenty-one townships, and the convention proceeded to resolve itself into the Livingston County Farmers' Association. J. H. Stitt was elected president; William B. Fyfe, vice-president; S. T. K. Prime, secretary; executive committee—S. S. Morgan, William Colon, J. P. Houston, George H. Wentz, and S. C. Ladd.

The resolutions adopted were strong in their denunciation of monopolies, and granges of the Patrons of Husbandry were formed in every township in the county. Co-operative stores were started in many towns throughout the county, probably at a great financial loss to the promoters, and the grange movement was soon lost sight of. At the November election in 1873 the Anti-Monopoly party carried the county by a majority of 1,400, electing R. R. Wallace, county judge; George W. Langford, county clerk; Joseph Stitt, county treasurer; M. Tombaugh, county superintendent of schools. In some townships not a Republican vote was cast.

The Democrats placed no ticket in the field, their organization for the time being extinct, their vote being generally given to the new party. In the fall of 1874, however, the Anti-Monopoly county ticket met with defeat, and B. E. Robinson was elected sheriff and Dr. E. G. Johnson, coroner, on the Republican ticket, but the next year the Republican ticket headed by Martin Dolde, of Pontiac, for county treasurer, was defeated by a small margin of thirty-four votes, J. H. Stitt being re-elected treasurer.

The Anti-Monopoly party gradually grew into the Greenback party, and in the Presidential campaign of 1876 the leaders of the Anti-Monopoly party were first and foremost in the organization of the new party. At the election in November they polled 1,170 votes for Peter Cooper for President, the largest vote cast for that ticket in any county in the United States. Rutherford B. Hayes, the Republican candidate for President, carried the county by a good majority, and notwithstanding the fact that the Democratic and Greenback parties united on their state and county tickets, the

entire Republican ticket was elected by good majorities.

In 1877 the Democrats again organized independent of the Greenbackers and placed a county ticket in the field, J. T. Bullard, candidate for county treasurer, receiving the highest vote of his party—650. The Greenback party elected their candidates for county judge and superintendent of schools, while the Republicans elected the county clerk and county treasurer.

In the elections for county officials in 1878-79 the Republicans were successful, electing their candidates for sheriff, coroner, treasurer and surveyor. James A. Garfield received the Republican nomination for President in 1880, uniting those opposed to General Grant. Garfield was shot by an assassin July 2, 1881, and was succeeded by President Arthur. Livingston County was in the Republican column this year, all the county ticket being elected with the one exception of state's attorney. In 1882 the Democrats elected county judge and county treasurer, the Republicans the county clerk, sheriff and superintendent of schools.

The long supremacy of the Republican party was now at an end. In 1884 the Republicans nominated James G. Blaine for President, the Democrats nominating Grover Cleveland. Blaine, though the idol of his party, was defeated mainly because he was alleged to have used his official position for private gain. The Cleveland administration was distinguished by a revenue tariff, adherence to civil service reform and to the gold standard. Livingston County went Republican by a good safe majority, electing their candidates for state's attorney and circuit clerk.

During the Cleveland administration M. A. Renoe was appointed postmaster at Pontiac, he being the first Democrat to fill that position since the appointment of Charles A. McGregor by President Johnson in 1866. John C. George was appointed at Dwight, Charles Axt at Odell, W. E. Baker at Fairbury and W. W. Sears at Chatsworth.

In 1886 the Republicans elected their county ticket with the exception of Judge R. R. Wallace.

In 1888 the Republicans were again returned to power in the national administration, Livingston County being carried by the Republicans, who elected their entire county ticket.

There was a Democratic landslide in Livingston County in 1890, they electing every member of their county tickets with the one exception of T. W. Coe, Republican, who was elected sheriff by a majority of over 500. R. R. Wallace was elected county judge; W. E. Baker, treasurer; John C. George, county clerk; and Henry A. Foster, county superintendent of schools.

In 1892 Mr. Cleveland was again returned to the Presidential chair, the Democrats carrying the county by a large majority, electing every member of their county ticket. During President Cleveland's administration Dr. J. J. Pearson was postmaster at Pontiac, James Kelagher at Dwight, Charles Axt at Odell, Thomas D. Karnes at Fairbury, and William H. Messler at Chatsworth.

Before the election in 1894, there was considerable disaffection in the Democratic ranks in Livingston County. By President Cleveland's steady adherence to the gold standard, he antagonized and displeased a large part of his party throughout the nation. The disaffection was notable in this county, the majority of the party being in favor of a more elastic currency. The Republicans carried the county at the November election, every member of their county ticket being elected by good majorities. Since this time not a Democrat has been elected to fill an office in the court house of Livingston County.

In 1896 gold had become the standard money of the country. The Republican national ticket was headed by William McKinley of Ohio. The Democratic party under the leadership of Mr. Bryan declared for the unlimited coinage of silver. A gold Democratic ticket with General John M. Palmer was also nominated. The Republicans carried Livingston County.

In 1900 the same presidential candidates were nominated by both parties as in 1896, with the same issues and with the same result. In August 1901, President McKinley was assassinated and was succeeded by Vice President Theodore Roosevelt.

In 1904 the conservative Democrats secured control of the Democratic national convention which nominated Alton B. Parker for President. The extraordinary personal popularity of President Roosevelt swept everything before him and, notwithstanding his incessant activity, frequently antagonizing powerful political and com-

mercial interests, his personal popularity with all parties has increased day by day.

From 1840 until the passing out of existence of the Whig party Livingston was reliably Democratic, and from its organization to the present time the Republican party has carried the county, with the one exception of 1892, at all national elections.

CAMPAIGN FEATURES OF 1860.

Soon after the nomination of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, the young Republicans of the village of Pontiac met and organized a "Wide-Awake" company, which, perhaps, as much as any other thing, shows how deep an interest was taken in the political struggle then going on in this county. At the first meeting held for the purpose, over forty enrolled themselves, paying down the price of their uniform. The week following the company numbered ninety. The officers were: Captain, Edwin R. Maples; first lieutenant, Jerome P. Garner; second lieutenant, Job E. Dye; third lieutenant, Seymour Bennett; fourth lieutenant, J. M. Marble; sergeant-at-arms, Wallace Lord.

One of the first events this company took part in was the erection of a Lincoln and Hamlin pole in the court house yard on Saturday afternoon, July 14, 1860. The pole stood 115 feet out of the earth, proudly waving from the top of which were the names of Lincoln and Hamlin. The enthusiasm manifested on the occasion of the raising, exhibited the intense feeling in favor of the Republican cause with which the people of this region were then animated. All Republicans in town were vying with each other in erecting the symbol of liberty, but prominent among the active ones might be mentioned the names of Seymour Bennett, John and George Wolgamott, W. H. Stevens. George Olmstead, Wallace Lord, E. R. Maples, who rendered efficient service on the occasion, when a rail fence was built up around it, and a splendid American flag was flung to the breeze. Challis' anvil was brought out and made to belch forth in thunder tones. Joshua Whittemore was called out, and, mounting the fence, made some exceedingly appropriate remarks, congratulating the Republicans upon the success with which their efforts in erecting the pole was crowned, and augured a similar termination to the campaign in November. After

giving three hearty cheers for the whole ticket, the crowd dispersed.

On July 29, 1860, the Hon James C. Allen, candidate for Governor of Illinois on the Democratic ticket, addressed the people of the county in the court house yard. There was a great outpouring of the people of the county on this occasion, and uniformed bodies of the "Ever Readys," as the Democratic clubs were named, were out in full force, acting as an escort for the speaker. Captain Morgan L. Payne, William Myers, Samuel C. Ladd, Henry O'Neill, Jonathan Duff, Thomas Kelly, L. B. Perry, Capt. John A. Hoskins and George Goodwin were the marshals for the "Ever Readys" from Pontiac, while Thomas Little headed the delegation from Dwight. Large delegations of Republicans were present and the Pontiac "Wide Awakes" were out in full force, and by noon it was ascertained by those who had made a canvass of the people present, that a majority of the crowd were Republicans. It was well known by the Republicans that unless some mode was adopted to get an expression of the crowd, the Democracy would claim that the whole assemblage belonged to their party, and hence a proposition was made to one of their leaders to take a vote after Mr. Allen got through speaking. This was not accepted, and it was resolved by the "Wide Awakes" that when the speaking was terminated, and the proceedings of the Democracy were wound up, three cheers be given for Lincoln and Hamlin by the Republicans. This course was adopted, and when, after the Democrats had given six cheers for Allen and three for Douglas, a young man by the name of Green mounted the platform and proposed three cheers for Lincoln and Hamlin. These were given with a will, the proceedings so exasperating the Democrats that a free fight, nearly terminating in a riot, soon followed, but, fortunately enough law-abiding citizens were present and these stepped in between the excited crowd and by judicious appeals put a stop to the further spread of the row.

On Friday, July 28, 1860, the Pontiac "Wide Awakes" visited Bloomington, on the occasion of the discussion between Lyman Trumbull and James C. Allen. A special train was chartered from Pontiac and at Lexington they were joined by forty "Wide Awakes" from that



James Buzan

town, and on the arrival of both companies in Bloomington, they were received and escorted up town by the Bloomington "Wide Awakes." The Pontiac delegation was in evidence in the parade and received the following complimentary notice in the *Pantagraph* the following week:

"We were much pleased to see so many of the Pontiac 'Wide Awakes' in Bloomington last Friday. In a few days they have raised a company of over a hundred men, and quite a number of others intend to join. Taking all things into consideration, this is the most spirited movement of the kind we have heard of in the country. They have done nobly, and for their visit to us on the occasion of our recent demonstration, and the large share of interest which they contributed to the meeting, we thank them on behalf of our citizens. They will doubtless do much to awake the right spirit among their fellow citizens."

On Thursday morning, September 6, 1860, the Pontiac and Fairbury "Wide Awakes" started on a forty mile trip from Pontiac over the prairies of Livingston and La Salle counties to be present at the Republican demonstration to be held in Ottawa the next day. The day was very warm and dusty, making it impossible for the teams to get along very fast, and it was 9 o'clock at night before they reached the camping ground at Covell Creek, some three and one-half miles this side of Ottawa. Owing to a slight misunderstanding, the Ottawa "Wide Awakes" turned out Thursday evening for the purpose of receiving the Pontiac-Fairbury boys, but the greater portion of the company understood that they were not to go into Ottawa until the next morning, and they pitched their tents at the creek for that purpose. During the night a heavy shower came down, drenching the boys to the skin, but, notwithstanding this fact, early the next morning the company took up its line of march and arrived in Ottawa about 8 o'clock, where quarters were provided for them in a large hall.

A meeting of the citizens of Ottawa had been held the previous evening for the purpose of making arrangements to take care of the boys, and upon the arrival being made known, invitations from all quarters came in to have those as it were take their choice of the houses they were desirous of stopping at. The universal

good treatment which all seemed to receive while in Ottawa stamp the people of that beautiful city as a whole-souled and generous people. No favors were too good to shower upon the Livingston County boys, and the recollection of the hospitality bestowed upon them was not soon forgotten. About 10 o'clock the Pontiac-Fairbury "Wide Awakes" were received in a military style by the Ottawa "Wide Awakes," under Captain Gray, and both companies marched to the depot, where they received the Peru "Wide Awakes." The Ottawa company, with snow-white trousers and new uniforms, made a handsome appearance as was ever witnessed by the Pontiac-Fairbury delegation during the entire campaign. The Livingston County boys, owing to their tiresome journey, camping out over night, and a smart shower of rain in the morning, which almost saturated them, did not make as showy an appearance as some of the other companies, but their sunburnt countenances and soiled uniforms only reflected credit on men who were thus willing to brave a scorching sun and a forty miles' journey to aid in the great battle then being fought between freedom and slavery. Everyone felt proud of them as they marched along the streets of Ottawa, and cheer upon cheer greeted them from every direction.

The Ottawa demonstration was the largest and most enthusiastic political gathering ever attended during the Lincoln-Douglas campaign by the delegates from Livingston County. The number of people in the city was estimated at from 20,000 to 25,000, who were addressed by the Hon. Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, and other noted speakers from all parts of Illinois, from stands erected in a grove near the city. The parade, both at noon and in the evening, was a long one, being participated in by delegations from La Salle, Grundy and Livingston counties, the whole being headed by the Great Western Band of Chicago.

Part of the delegates from this county started on their return journey soon after the speaking, while the remainder took part in the torchlight procession at night, returning the next day, being well repaid for their long and tedious journey of eighty miles.

After the Ottawa meeting, the different organizations of "Wide Awakes" all over the county were in demand continuously. Special

attention was paid to drilling the companies and no person without the full uniform was permitted to march with them.

The uniform consisted of a black cap and cape made of oil cloth, and they were always referred to as "the black Republicans." Each member carried a torch, painted red, on the staff of which, directly under the lamp, hung a small American flag with the pictures of Lincoln and Hamlin printed thereon.

The company in Pontiac numbered one hundred strong, and were composed of men ranging in age from 21 to 35 years. They met regularly for drill and were put through their evolutions by Captain H. B. Reed, who had arrived in Pontiac in August, 1860, and Wallace Lord, who, previous to his coming to Pontiac, was a member of the famous Ellsworth Zouaves of Chicago. When the war broke out, every member of this company, with the exception of six, volunteered and went to the front.

The "Ever Readys" in Livingston County, as the Democratic marching clubs were called, were also actively engaged during the campaign of 1860. They were a splendid body of young men, well drilled and presented a fine appearance. The company from Pontiac were in demand at rallies all over the state. On Saturday, October 5, 1860, they went to Chicago, where they took part in a large demonstration in honor of Stephen A. Douglas. They also visited Bloomington and attended every rally of importance in the county. John A. Hoskins was the captain of the Pontiac company, being ably assisted by Joseph F. Culver, then deputy county clerk, George Goodwin, Captain Morgan L. Payne, William Myers, Thomas Kelly and L. B. Perry.

The organization and drilling of the "Wide Awakes" in 1860 created considerable excitement in the south. Many of the young men prankfully drilling in 1860, shortly put to good use the military knowledge they acquired on the bloody battlefields of the South. Wallace Lord, one of the drill masters of the "Wide Awakes," went into the army with a commission of lieutenant, H. B. Reed with a captain's commission, while John A. Hoskins and Joseph F. Culver of the "Ever Readys" were both captains of companies in the 129th when that regiment left Pontiac for the front in 1862. A great majority of the "Every Ready" marching club

went to the war, at the first call for men, and stood side by side with their old political enemy, the "Wide Awakes." Many never returned to their homes and are now sleeping in unknown graves on Southern battlefields. Wallace Lord, John S. Lee, Martin Dolde, Benjamin Barney, R. D. Folks, James H. Gaff, and "Uncle" John Balmer are the only members of the Pontiac "Wide Awakes" organization living at the present time, while David P. Murphy resides in Owego, the remainder having passed away. Time has dealt harshly with the "Ever Readys," there not being a member left to our knowledge, to tell the tale of the hard fought political campaign of 1860, and only one—Henry J. Babcock, of Kansas City, Kans., survives.

The features during the campaign of 1864 were small as compared to those of 1860, most of the men being at the front in the war. In 1868, during the Grant-Seymour campaign, the Republican marching clubs were known as "Tanners," while the Democrats had a similar organization called the "Hickory Boys." These organizations continued with diminishing grandeur in the county until 1896, when the Republicans began the formation of McKinley marching clubs. The marchers were, as a general rule, fully uniformed and presented a handsome appearance and attracted great attention. Since 1896 the campaign features have been few, and during the campaign of 1904 in this county they were almost lost sight of, Pontiac being without a marching club for the first time since 1860.

EARLY POLITICS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY.

The following letter from "Long" John Wentworth (deceased), of Chicago, written to a friend in Pontiac under date of June 6, 1882, gives some idea of the manner in which a political campaign was conducted in Livingston County at an early date. In 1843, this county was in the Fourth congressional district and Mr. Wentworth was the candidate for Congress. His trip through Livingston County is thus described:

"The State Legislature adjourned March 6, 1843. It was this Legislature which made the congressional apportionment under the census of 1840. It should have been made at the previous session, but a delay in the census returns kept the matter back. This caused an election to be held for the 28th congress in that year, instead of the year previous, and for the 29th



O.P. Bowland

congress the next year. About the 1st of April, 1843, I took a one-horse buggy and drove via DuPage, Kane and Kendall counties to Ottawa. From Ottawa I started for Pontiac, Bloomington, Urbana and Danville, tarrying for the first night at the home of Rees Morgan in La Salle County, who was at that time one of the most prominent men in that region. (Mr. Morgan was the first person to locate in Fayette Township.) The next day I passed for the first time into Livingston County, stopping at William K. Brown's, on Mud Creek. Here was one of the two post offices in the county, called Sunbury. Ever afterwards I made his hospitable home my headquarters when in that region. I would always send word to Mr. Brown when I was coming, and he would get together a number of the farmers up and down the creek, and we would talk over the affairs of the nation in a social manner. I do not remember that I made any speeches in the county while a member of Congress, unless it may have been at Pontiac, and I am not certain about that. If I ever did, it must have been in the house of Augustus Fellows, where I ever remained over night when in that region. On my first visit, Mr. Brown pointed me out the proper route to the home of Hon Andrew McMillan, one of the members of the Legislature for the senatorial district composed of McLean and Livingston counties. Mr. Brown gave me the names of all the men living along the route and I made them a short call. I found Mr. McMillan a very interesting gentleman. He was quite advanced in years and a native of Virginia. During the last of my congressional term, 'Father' McMillan manifested some anxiety in my welfare, fearing that the Abolitionists were having too much influence over me. After dinner he mounted his horse and introducing me to all the settlers along the road, accompanied me to the house of Mr. Fellows in Pontiac. There was no man more highly respected in all Livingston County than Augustus Fellows and no one who more deserved to be. There I had quite an ovation. The people had heard of me as the coming congressman and came to see and hear. No candidate for congress had ever before visited the place. I leave it to Mrs. Fellows, now living, although having remarried, to give the number. There must have been about fifteen present in all. I wish I could remember the names of all I became acquainted

with on that day. There was a Mr. Blue, who went with 'Father' McMillan and myself to Pontiac. I have an indistinct recollection that he or one of his sons afterwards was a candidate for some office upon the ticket with me, probably sheriff. There was Samuel C. Ladd (now deceased), a brother of Mrs. Fellows, and Daniel S. Ebersoll, the postmaster. There were large families of Darnalls, McDowells and Blues whom I remember, also Murell Breckenridge, Andrew Sprague, L. E. Rhoades, John Bradley, John K. Demoss and others whom I might think of in time. The next morning I set out for Bloomington, my friends in Pontiac having given me a list of names of men to be called upon on the way. I had so many calls to make that I only got as far as Lexington the next day.

"I can remember of no bridges in Livingston County during my entire term. All the streams had to be forded and they were very treacherous. Sometimes I would find them quite dry and sometimes I would fear for my safety in passing them. At my second nomination in Ottawa, in 1844, Albert Dolde, a very promising young lawyer at Bloomington, a delegate, was drowned on his return home, while trying to cross a stream on horseback between Pontiac and Bloomington, which had suddenly risen after he had passed over it on his way to Ottawa.

"At one of my early visits in the Mud creek region, my friends asked me to take a young lady home who lived on my road across the creek, which was then about two feet deep. I asked her how she calculated to get across the creek if I had not come along. 'Ford it,' said she, at the same time throwing one of her feet upon the side of the buggy so that I could see her bare ankle. I said: 'It don't cost you much for stockings down here in Livingston County.' 'There's where you are mistaken, but we put them in our pockets when we ford the creeks,' said she, and pulled out a pair of clean, white ones. I was telling one of my Livingston County friends that when I reached Washington, I was intending to frank home to her a pair of silk stockings. 'Don't you do it,' says he, 'as her father don't vote our ticket and it will displease the daughters of our friends and they will put their fathers against you. You would have to send to all if you sent to one, and there are more than a dozen such girls in the county.'

I suppose your streams are all bridged now, as it cannot be possible that all the handsome stockings sold from Chicago into Livingston County are put on or taken off at the depots in consequence of having to ford the streams.

"Milk sickness was very prevalent among the cattle and fever and ague and bilious fever among the people. There were great complaints among the people because they could not have all the milk and butter they wanted when they had so much grain and corn to feed their cattle upon. There were a great many places in Livingston County where splendid crops of corn could be raised, but the roads were so poor that it would not pay to haul it to market and there was so much disease among the cattle that there was nothing to which the settlers could feed it except hogs, and there were then too many hogs for the people. I always found the best pork, ham and bacon in Livingston County and there were eggs and honey in abundance to go with them. There were good potatoes and all other vegetables.

"My early sympathies were excited for the people of Livingston County, and I wondered how people would settle there when so much better land could be purchased in other places. Their only mail facilities consisted of a horse-back mail once a week from Ottawa to Bloomington. Here is the way the only two post-offices stood when I was first elected, taken from the United States Blue Book and Register, which is published once in two years, and so the receipts are given for two years:

"Pontiac, Daniel S. Ebersol.....\$42.78

Sunbury, John Bradley 7.50

"I bent my first efforts in behalf of Livingston County toward securing better mail facilities. The Postmaster-General said the proceeds would not warrant it, and I told him they never would as long as the people could have their letters and papers forwarded quicker by ordinary teams. There was a semi-weekly two-horse mail from Peoria, via Bloomington, to Danville. North of this and east of the canal towns the country was all about in the same condition as to mails, and the nature of the land and the diseases of the people and cattle were about the same. My first thought was to break down the one-horse with public documents from Washington. The documents were printed at public expense and my constituents were entitled to a fair share of them and the

Government ought to furnish transportation.

"There were a great many documents that had been encumbering the document room for years, members of congress not thinking them of sufficient interest to send away; and some of them were very large. There were a great many seeds to be distributed also. I ordered an extra supply at my own expense at the place where the department purchased. Then there was the great seal of sealing-wax, now out of use: 'United States of America' sealing-wax was heavy and you could put on as much as you pleased. It was used all through my district by children to cut their front teeth with. Every package had its great seal upon it, and the more wax the heavier it bore on the horse. I secured the appointment of several clerks in the department from my district, all of whom would come to my room evenings and help in writing letters, putting on the sealing-wax and directing documents. Among these clerks was General Merritt L. Covell, of Bloomington, at one time clerk of the Illinois State Senate. He was a plain and rapid penman and was acquainted with almost every man in the one-horse region, and he enabled me to send something to persons whom I might otherwise have omitted. I wish I could reproduce a picture he drew of a horse struggling under one of your weekly mails with a driver on top of the whole. While doing all this, the Whig papers were attacking me for getting all the documents, garden seeds, stationery, and sealing wax there was in Washington. There was to be a Whig meeting at Bloomington and one of the invited orators was telling, before the meeting began, about any operations in this respect, when the late General Gridley, one of the most respectable and influential Whigs, said to him: 'You will make nothing by such statements. Long John is the only man that ever noticed our people; and what you want to do is to advocate Whig principles and tell them that if we can elect a Whig congressman, he will beat Long John in franking public documents.' General Gridley and Judge Davis were always my friends as against any other Democrat, but they never voted for me because I was a General Jackson and Colonel Benton man, while they were ardent supporters of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.

"When I ceased to represent Livingston County, you had a tri-weekly mail and your post-

offices were increased as follows with the yearly receipts:

"Avoca, James McDowell, \$18.40; Billings' Grove, Joseph Sedgwick, \$1.04; Indian Grove, John Darnall, \$19.43; Long Point, William Eaton, \$14.98; New Michigan, G. W. Richards, \$25.97; Pontiac, Jerome P. Garner, \$66.56; Reading, Thomas A. Hill, \$28.84; Rooks Creek, Peleg Edwards, \$6.05; Sunbury, George W. Boyer, \$9.58.

"There were a great many very respectable members of the Whig party in Livingston County. I am indebted to them for a great many hospitalities in passing through the county. Many of them told me they had known Mr. Clay personally and their admiration for him knew no bounds. It is a remarkable fact that the Abolition candidate for Congress never received a vote while I was a candidate. In the bitter contest of 1848, when Lewis Cass, Zachary Taylor and Martin Van Buren were candidates, the latter received four votes. I suppose, if living, these will claim to be the 'seed of the church.' If the politicians of your county are like those of most counties, there will be at least one hundred men who will claim to be one of the four, and perhaps the real four are all dead. I will give the state of the vote at each of the four elections, my name being in the first column:

	Dem.	Whig.	Total.
1843	111	66	177
1844	110	61	171
1846	124	58	182
1848	108	62	170

"The most exciting election we ever had had up to that time in Illinois was the Presidential election of 1848, when Livingston County for the first time raised her vote above 200. General Cass had 130, General Taylor 82, Martin Van Buren 4; total 216, I lost some votes that year because some of the emigrants from the South feared that I was drifting toward Abolition, but they would not vote for the Whig candidate. Livingston County had two delegates in the conventions that nominated me. 1843, Andrew McMillan and Augustus Fellows; 1844, Augustus Fellows and William K. Brown; 1846, William K. Brown and Garrett M. Blue; 1848, A. A. McDowell and John Blue.

"I learn that these delegates are all dead now."

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Livingston County has been honored by having the following citizens to represent it in the State Senate and House of Representatives, the dates noting the year of their election:

State Senators: 1868-1870, Jason W. Strevell, Pontiac; 1872-74, James G. Strong, Dwight; 1876-78, Samuel T. Fosdick, Chatsworth; 1876-86, George Torrance, Chatsworth and Pontiac; 1904-68, Ira M. Lish, Saunemin. All the above were Republicans.

Representatives: 1858, Richard S. Hick, Reading; 1860, Andrew J. Cropsey, Fairbury; 1862, Mercy B. Patty, Owego; 1864, Jason W. Strevell, Pontiac; 1866-68, Wm. Strawn, Odell; 1870, John Stillwell, Chatsworth; 1872, Lucian Bullard, Forrest; 1874, David McIntosh, Newtown; 1876-78, George B. Gray, Rooks Creek; 1880, A. C. Goodspeed (rep.) Odell, Leander L. Green (dem.) Odell; 1882-4, A. G. Goodspeed (rep.) Odell, Michael Cleary (dem.) Odell; 1886, O. W. Pollard (rep.) Dwight, Michael Cleary (dem.) Odell; 1888, O. W. Pollard (rep.) Dwight, N. J. Myer (rep.) Ocoya, James A. Smith (dem.) Chatsworth; 1890, Rufus C. Straight (rep.) Fairbury, N. J. Myer (rep.) Ocoya, James A. Smith, (dem.) Chatsworth; 1892, Rufus C. Straight (rep.) Fairbury, Bailey A. Gower (rep.) Odell, James A. Smith (dem.) Chatsworth; 1894, Bailey A. Gower (rep.) Odell; 1896, Oscar F. Avery (rep.) Pontiac; 1898, M. C. Eignus (rep.) Forrest, Michael Cleary (dem.) Odell; 1900, M. C. Eignus (rep.) Forrest; 1902, Ira M. Lish (rep.) Saunemin, John P. Moran (dem.) Fairbury; 1904, John P. Moran, (dem.) Fairbury.

OFFICIAL VOTE OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY AT ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 1908.

Following is the total number of votes cast for each candidate in Livingston County at the election, November 4, 1908. The total number of votes cast were 9,692. Of this number, 5,358 votes were cast for the Republicans, 3,778 for the Democrats, 346 for the Prohibition party, 77 for the Socialist party, 9 for the Socialist Labor party, 27 for Hearst's Independence party, 4 for the United Christian and 8 for the People's party. The totals are as follows:

For President—
 William H. Taft (Rep.).....5,358
 William J. Bryan (Dem.).....3,778
 Eugene W. Chafin (Pro.)..... 346
 Taft's plurality1,580



B. F. Bradbury.

FAIRBURY.—Aaron Welder Woman's Relief Corps No. 53 was organized March 3, 1900, by Mrs. Bessie Jenkins, of Pontiac. Past Presidents—Mrs. Sarah Robinson, Ruth A. Carter, Elizabeth E. Stevens, Julia Furguson, Louisa Mires, Mary Watts, Louise Filley.

CHARTER MEMBERS.—Sarah Robinson, Dora M. Thatcher, Edith B. Lewis, Emma J. Babcock, Elizabeth E. Stevens, Ruth A. Carter, Franc W. Finley, Margaret Huntoon, Elizabeth Robinson, Ann Day.

CHAPTER X.

MILITARY HISTORY—SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

RECORD OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR
—REGIMENTS IN WHICH CITIZENS OF THE
COUNTY SERVED—LIST OF COMPANIES AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS—SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR RECORD
—LIST OF OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WHO SERVED
IN THAT STRUGGLE—SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS'
MONUMENT AT PONTIAC—HISTORY OF ITS ERECTION—DEDICATED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT—
OTHER MONUMENTS OF PONTIAC, FAIRBURY AND
FORREST TOWNSHIP.—REUNION OF ONE HUNDRED
TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT, 1908.

During the Civil War, this county bore a considerable part, hundreds of the young men enlisting in the various companies. Several who thus exchanged home and family comforts for the hardships and sufferings of camp and field. In addition, sacrificed their lives for the principles which they loved better than fireside, and even better than existence. Some of them were killed outright in the affair; others received wounds of which they died after a lingering illness; and others, though never receiving a saber cut or a musket shot, received the seeds of disease, contracted from exposure and hardships which finally terminated their existence. The census of 1860 showed there were 15,576 inhabitants in Livingston County. Scarcely one-fourth of this number were subject to military duty, yet this county sent 1,444 soldiers to the field. A number went singly and in twos and threes, and enlisted in various batteries and

regiments, which cannot find separate mention in this book.

TWENTIETH INFANTRY.—Away back in 1861, when the dark cloud of rebellion rose in threatening, angry tempest and when the shot which "echoes round the world" was heard from Fort Sumter and Lincoln called for 75,000 men to maintain the unity of these states, then it was that the men (100 from this county) who afterward were mustered into Company D, of the 20th Illinois Infantry, enlisted in the service of their country to die, if need be, that the Union might be preserved. Just twenty-two days after Fort Sumter was fired upon, the 20th was organized and went into camp at Joliet, and one month later (June 13) was mustered into the service and on its way to active service. October 21, 1861, found it engaged in its first battle at Fredericktown, Mo., and after camp life and various marches, in February of next year was in front of Fort Donelson, engaged in three days' battle, where many of them gave up their lives. The regiment was engaged in the battle of Shiloh on April 6 and 7 and at Corinth on June 3. In May, 1862, it took part in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Run and then through the siege of Vicksburg. The next year after Kenesaw Mountain, the regiment was engaged in the battles at Atlanta. After the fall of Atlanta, this regiment joined Sherman in his march to the sea, and after the fall of the Confederacy, took part in the grand review at Washington. The regiment was mustered out July 16, 1865, at Louisville, Ky., and arrived in Chicago three days later for final payment and discharge. The officers of Company B were as follows: Captain, Charles L. Page (promoted to sergeant major, then to captain, killed at Atlanta); Captain Frederick Shearer (enlisted as sergeant, promoted to captain, mustered out as first sergeant); First Lieutenant Joshua Whitmore (resigned March 28, 1862); First Lieutenant George McFadden; Second Lieutenant Henry B. Reed (enlisted as sergeant); First Sergeant Charles W. Clark; Sergeant Albert S. Jones (died Nov. 28, 1861); Sergeant Warren Robinson; Corporal Pleasant Zeph (died at Pontiac, March 4, 1862); Corporal Jacob Gilmore; Corporal Anthony Knight (supposed to have been killed at Shiloh, April 7, 1862); Corporal James G. Lord (killed at Raymond, Miss., May 12, 1863); Corporal Theodore Higgins (disabled June 13, 1864); Cor-

poral Thomas Kelly (died at La Grange, Tenn., May 12, 1863); Corporal H. McArthur (died at Avoca, Ill., March 4, 1862); Musician Esam Johnson (died November, 1861); Musician John R. Garner (died February 14, 1863); Wagoner John Mossholder (died at Pontiac, December 4, 1861).

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH INFANTRY.

—President Lincoln had issued his call for three hundred thousand volunteers, and loyal men, all over the North, were enlisting in the service of their country. The idea that seventy-five thousand men could crush the rebellion in three months had exploded; and the call of the President met a hearty response in Livingston County. Professional men, mechanics and farmers left their families and their business, and enrolled their names "for three years or during the war." Company A was raised in Pontiac, Reading, Odell, Long Point and other towns; Company B in Dwight and vicinity; Company C largely in Rooks Creek, Nevada, Odell, and other townships; Company E in Fairbury, and Company G mainly in Pontiac and vicinity. Of course it will not be understood that other townships are excluded from the credit of representation in this regiment; but, on account of an unfortunate method which prevailed, of giving the name of the post office, instead of the township, the actual residence of a large number was not recorded. The balance of the regiment was raised in the counties of Scott and Rock Island.

John A. Hoskins, who was subsequently promoted to the office of Major, was elected Captain of Company A; J. F. Culver, who afterward, by promotion, succeeded Hoskins as Captain, was elected First Lieutenant, and John W. Smith subsequently promoted to the First Lieutenantcy, was elected Second Lieutenant. To the last named office C. C. Yetter eventually succeeded.

Company B was officered as follows: Samuel T. Walkley, Captain; George W. Gilchrist, First Lieutenant, and Elihu Chilcott, Second Lieutenant. John B. Perry was elected Captain of Company C; Robert P. Edgington was chosen First Lieutenant, and A. A. McMurray, who on the resignation of Perry was promoted to the Captaincy, was elected Second Lieutenant. To the office made vacant by the promotion of McMurray, S. H. Kyle was advanced.

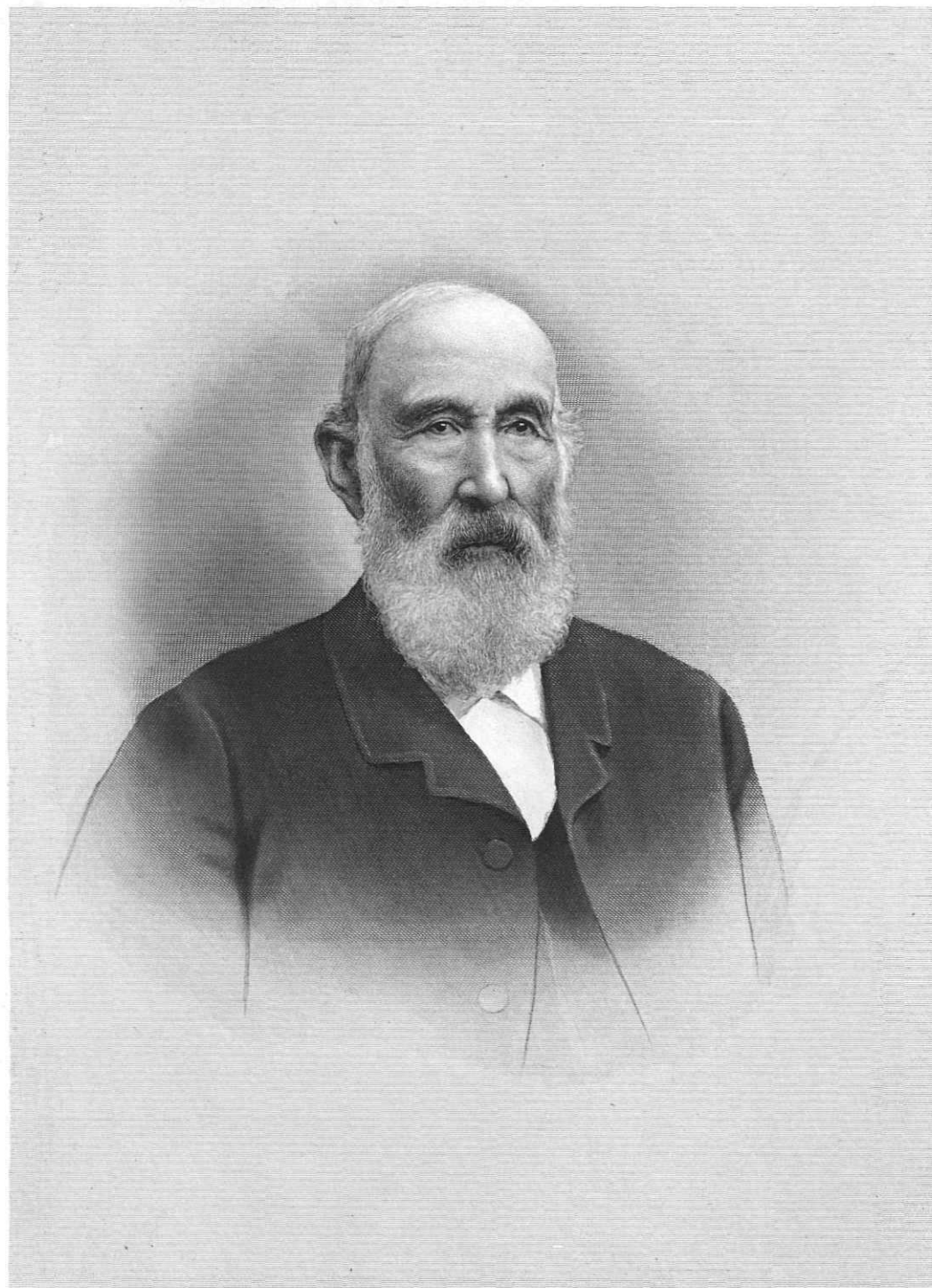
The officers of Company E were: C. N. Baird, Captain; John F. Blackburn, First, and B. F.

Fitch, Second Lieutenant. To the last mentioned office W. H. H. McDowell succeeded, on the resignation of Blackburn, Fitch being promoted to the First Lieutenantcy.

The officers of Company G were H. B. Reed, Captain; Lemuel Morse, First, and John P. McKnight, Second Lieutenant, which offices they respectively held, without succession, until they were mustered out.

The regiment was organized September 8, 1862, with George P. Smith, of Dwight, as Colonel; Henry Case, of Winchester, Lieutenant Colonel; A. J. Cropsey, of Fairbury, Major; Philip D. Plattenburg, of Pontiac, Adjutant; W. C. Gwinn, Regimental Quartermaster; Dr. Darius Johnson, of Pontiac, Assistant Surgeon, and subsequently promoted to Surgeon, with Dr. O. S. Wood as his Assistant, and Rev. Thomas Cotton, of Pontiac, Chaplain; and non-commissioned officers, I. G. Mott, of Pontiac, Hospital Steward, to which office John A. Fellows, of Pontiac, succeeded on Mott's death; W. H. H. McDowell, of Fairbury, Sergeant Major, and George W. Quackenbush, Quartermaster Sergeant.

The regiment remained in camp, at Pontiac, until the 22nd of September, when it was ordered to Louisville, Ky., where it joined the Thirty-eighth Brigade of the Twelfth Division, under Maj. Gen. Gilbert. On the 3rd of October, they were ordered forward, in pursuit of Gen. Bragg, who was threatening Louisville. His retreat led them by way of Frankfort and Danville, to Crab Orchard. On the 20th of October, the brigade having been transferred to the Tenth Division, commenced a return march to Bowling Green, arriving at which place, they remained until the 21st of November, when they were ordered to Mitchellville, to guard the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. In this duty the regiment, being stationed in detachments at Mitchellville, Buck's Lodge, Fountain Head and South Tunnel, continued until June 9, 1863, when they were ordered to Gallatin, where they went into camp and remained until August 20, when they received orders to move forward to Nashville. Here the regiment remained for six months, when, on the 24th of February, 1864, tents were struck, and they again took up the line of march, this time to make their way to Chattanooga, to join the army under Gen. Sherman. From this point to Atlanta, Ga., the regiment was engaged in almost a continuous fight with the enemy. On the 14th of May, the regiment



Lewis. Prud. Co. Chgo.

A. Camp

came in contact with the rebels at Resaca, which was a continual fight of two days, ending in the capture of the place. On the 25th, they came upon the enemy at Burnt Hickory, where a bloody battle was fought; and from the 18th of June till the 3rd of July, they were engaged at Kenesaw Mountain and Marietta. On July 17th, they crossed the Chattahoochie River, and continued their march to Peach Tree Creek, where they were confronted by the rebels under Gen. Hood, who had superseded Johnson. After a hard fought battle, lasting through the day, the rebel army fled, the Union army pursuing toward Atlanta, which place they reached on the 22d. After a siege of six weeks, the rebels abandoned Atlanta, and the Union army took possession. This was one of the most important victories of the war. On the 13th of November, the army began to move forward, further into the interior of the enemy's country. From here until the entrance of the army into the City of Savannah, their progress was, in a measure, without opposition, though the fatigue and privations to which the soldiers were subjected were severe in the extreme. They reached the neighborhood of Savannah on the 10th of December, and entered the city in triumph, just as the last of the enemy were retiring. Their sore feet and tired limbs were permitted to rest here, until the last of January, 1865, when they commenced the march through the Carolinas. Their route now lay through Columbia, Fayetteville, Bentonville, and Goldsboro to Raleigh, reaching the last named place on the 13th of April. Their advance to this place, with the exception of the sharp conflict at Bentonville, in which the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth took a prominent part, met with no opposition of importance, and the work of the army consisted mainly in destroying railroads and bridges, and foraging on the country. While resting here, negotiations were in progress for the surrender of the rebel armies; and on the 30th of April, the army was on its way to Washington, where it arrived without incident of importance, on the 24th of May. After a few days, the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth was mustered out of service, and on the 8th of June, took leave of the city, and arrived at Chicago on the 11th. On the 19th, the men received their discharges and final pay, and, at once, those from Livingston County took the train for Pontiac, having been absent from their homes two years and nine months.

THIRTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—About one-half of Company F of the Thirty-third were from this county and enlisted from the northwestern townships. It was organized at Camp Butler, Ill., in September, 1861, by Col. Charles E. Hovey and mustered into service by Capt. T. G. Pitcher, U. S. A., September 20, the regiment moved to Ironton, Mo., where it remained during the winter. In 1863, the regiment was ordered to St. Genevieve, Mo., where, with the command, it embarked for Milliken's Bend, La. Attached to the First Brigade, First Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, it was engaged in active service, participating in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, assault and siege of Vicksburg, and the siege of Jackson. January 1, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted as veterans and March 14 reached Bloomington, Ill., and received veteran furlough. April 18, 1864, the regiment was reorganized at Camp Butler and proceeded to New Orleans. September 17, 1864, the non-veterans of the regiment were started home, via New York, in charge of rebel prisoners and were mustered out at Camp Butler about October 11, 1864. March 2, 1865, the regiment joined the Sixteenth Army Corps. Three weeks later it was after engaged in the battle of Mobile. After the surrender of Mobile, marched with the Sixteenth Army Corps for Montgomery, Ala., thence to Meridian, Miss., afterward to Vicksburg, where it remained until mustered out of service, Nov. 24, 1865.

THIRTY-NINTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS.—Company C (88 men and 6 musicians) was raised in this county in August, 1861. This regiment was better known as the "Yates Phalanx," so named after Gov. Richard Yates. John Gray was captain, but he resigned on May 26, 1862, and James Wightman was promoted from first lieutenant to captain. Wightman died May 16, 1864 and John H. Johnson was elected captain. He was killed in battle and James Hannum was made captain. Wallace Lord was first lieutenant, but resigned January 24, 1862, and Simon S. Brucker was promoted to that office. Brucker resigned April 20, 1864, and Daniel Guisinger was elected in his stead. Upon his resigning, Henry H. DeLong was elected first lieutenant. The company was mustered into U. S. service, October 13, 1861, and moved to St. Louis, Mo., October 29th, received orders to move to Williamsport, Md., where it was fully armed and equipped. The following are the most impor-

tant events in the history of this celebrated regiment: Held a force of 10,000 rebels under command of Stonewall Jackson, for twenty-four hours. Participated in battle of Winchester. Four companies, under Major S. W. Munn, captured thirty prisoners at Columbia Bridge. Was in Gen. McClellan's seven days' fight. Was at Suffolk, Va., September, October and November, fortifying the place and making frequent raids, capturing, on one occasion, two cannon and forty prisoners; January 5, 1863, broke camp and marched to Chowan River, where it took transports and reported to Gen. Foster, at Newburn, N. C. Here its Colonel, T. O. Osborn, took command of the Brigade. Moved on expedition to Hilton Head. Was in Gen. Hunter's expedition against Charleston. At Morris Island, was assigned to Gen. Terry's expedition, and participated in capture of Fort Wagner. Was first in the fort. Left Hilton Head on veteran furlough, January 1, 1864, via New York. Returned 750 strong, and was on Butler's expedition up James River, the entire loss being nearly 200. At Wier's Bottom Church, May 20th, the Thirty-ninth was ordered to dislodge the enemy, which it did most gallantly, losing forty, but capturing many prisoners, including Gen. Walker. On the 16th of May, had an engagement with Longstreet's command, losing some thirty-five. On the 2nd of June, the regiment was again called into action, on nearly the same ground as on the 20th of May, in which engagement it lost, in killed, wounded and missing, some forty men. Lieutenant Albert W. Fellows was killed soon after the action commenced, and Lieutenant Al C. Sweetzer was severely wounded in both legs, losing one by amputation above the knee. August 14th, crossed James River and operated with Army of the James. On August 15th, the regiment lost 104 men, among them several valuable officers. October 13th, in a charge, the Thirty-ninth lost sixty out of 250 engaged. Captain George Heritage, commanding the regiment, was severely wounded in two places, Lieutenant C. J. Wilder was killed, and Lieutenant N. E. Davis mortally wounded. The regiment now fell under command of First Lieutenant James Hannum, Company C, there being but two other officers besides himself left—one the adjutant the other a second lieutenant—the balance killed, or absent, wounded. Several, however, had previously been mustered out, by reason of expiration of service. March 27th, about 100 re-

cruits joined. Took part in movements that resulted in capture of Petersburg and Richmond. In engagement at Fort Gregg, which was mostly hand to hand, the loss was sixty-five out of 150 engaged. For this gallantry Gen. Gibbon, their commanding General, had a magnificent brazen eagle cast and presented to the regiment. After various manoeuvres and surrender of Lee, the Thirty-ninth was mustered out at Norfolk, Va., and received final pay and discharge at Springfield, Ill., December 15, 1865.

FORTY-FOURTH VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.—Thirty-eight men from this county enlisted in Company C, eight men re-enlisted as veterans, and five enlisted in Company B. The Forty-fourth was organized in August, 1861, at Camp Ellsworth, Chicago, under the supervision of Charles Knoblesdorff, and was mustered into service September 13. On March 29 was assigned to Gen. Sigel's division. The following February, Gen. Curtis assumed command. The regiment took part in the battle of Pea Ridge. April 5, the regiment was placed in Col. Osterhaus' brigade. In September the army was reorganized and the Forty-fourth assigned to the Army of the Ohio, under Gen. Buell and was in the battle of Perryville, October 8, in a division commanded by Gen. Phil. Sheridan. Marched to Crab Orchard and Bowling Green, where Gen. Rosecrans took command. At Stone river, the regiment lost half its number in killed and wounded. July 26, was engaged at Hoover's Gap, Shelbyville and Tullahoma, Tenn. Took part in the battle of Chickamauga. In the battle of Mission Ridge, soon after, Gen. Sheridan gave the Forty-fourth the praise of raising their flag among the very first in the rebel works. After many marches and hardships, the Forty-fourth arrived at Chattanooga, February 3, 1864, and, for the first time in four months, drew full rations from the Government. Here the regiment re-enlisted and went home on veteran furlough, arriving in Chicago, March 1, having marched during its term of enlistment over 5,000 miles. April 14, it arrived at Nashville, and immediately marched to Chattanooga, and from thence entered on the memorable Atlanta campaign, and participated in the following skirmishes and engagements: Buzzard Roost, Rocky-Faced Mountain, Resaca, Adairsville, Dallas, New Hope Church, Kennesaw Mountain, Gulp's Farm, Chattahoochee River, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta and Jonesboro. Its movements then were to Chattanooga, Tenn.,

Athens, Ala., Pulaski, Tenn., and from thence gradually fell back on Nashville, closely pursued by the enemy, and took a very prominent part in the battle of Franklin. Thence proceeded, via Nashville, to Huntsville, Ala., arriving January 5, 1865. March 28, was ordered to Knoxville, thence to Blue Springs, Tenn. After the surrender of the rebel armies, the Forty-fourth was ordered to New Orleans, arriving June 22. It then moved, by steamer, to Port Lavaca, Texas, where it remained until September 25, when it was mustered out and proceeded to Springfield, Ill., arriving October 15, 1865, and received its final payment and discharge.

FIFTY-THIRD VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.—In January, 1862, Capt. Morgan L. Payne recruited a company of men (42) at Pontiac, which entered the service as Company G of the Fifty-third Illinois. The Fifty-third was organized at Ottawa by Col. W. H. W. Cushman in the winter of 1861-62, and on February 27 moved to Camp Douglas, Ill. Ordered to Savannah, Tenn., March 23. Arrived at Shiloh on the night of April 7 and placed in the First Brigade, Fourth Division, Brig.-Gen. J. G. Lauman commanding brigade, and Brig.-Gen. S. A. Hurlbut commanding division. Engaged in the siege of Corinth. In 1863 was engaged in siege of Vicksburg. July 12, 1863, the Fifty-third participated in the gallant but disastrous battle of Jackson, Miss., going into the fight with 200 men and officers and coming out with but 66. Col. Earl fell, pierced with four bullets; Captain Michael Leabey and Lieutenant George W. Hemstreet were killed, and Captain J. E. Hudson mortally wounded, the entire loss being 88 killed and wounded and 46 missing. On February 1, 1864, the regiment, having re-enlisted, was mustered as a veteran organization. Was engaged in the siege of Atlanta, and in the engagements of July 21, 22 and 23, 1863, lost 101 men, killed and wounded. Was mustered out on July 22, 1865.

THIRD CAVALRY.—Company K was raised in the vicinity of Fairbury, and was officered as follows: Aaron Weider, first lieutenant; Byron Phelps, second lieutenant (upon the resignation of John Zimmerman); Walter Scott (disabled), Thomas Davis, Frederick Joerndt (disabled), Julius F. Gould, sergeants. This company of 118 men served during the entire war. The regiment was known as the Carr regiment, being officered by three brothers—Eugene A. Carr, of the regular army, colonel; Horace M. Carr, chap-

lain; Byron Carr, quartermaster. The regiment was organized at Camp Butler, Ill., in August, 1861, and mustered out of service October 13, 1865.

SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY (three months).—The Adjutant General's reports do not give any history of this regiment. Sixty-one from this county enlisted in Co. G.

One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Infantry (100 days).—Organized at Camp Wood, Quincy, by Col. John W. Goodwin on June 21, 1864. Regiment was assigned to garrison duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Major Tunison, with Companies C and F, occupied the post of Weston, Mo., from July 7 to August 3, Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Davis commanding. Was mustered out of service October 14, 1864. Company F was organized in Pontiac with David M. Lyon as captain. Sixty-four Livingston County boys enlisted, and but one (Fred Fraley) deserted.

Livingston County contributed nineteen men each to Companies A and D of the Seventeenth Cavalry; thirty-nine to Cogswell's Battery; sixteen to Company D, Seventy-third Infantry; twenty-two to Company D, Fifty-second Infantry; sixteen to Company F, Fifty-eighth Infantry; sixteen to Company H, Seventy-seventh Infantry; sixteen to Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-third Infantry; ten to Company F, One Hundred and Fiftieth Infantry; ten to Company B, Twelfth Infantry; sixteen to Company D, Seventy-first Infantry; eleven to Company B and seven to Company K, Fourteenth Cavalry; nine to Battery M, First Artillery Regiment.

(Portions of the above are taken from the Adjutant General's Report and from a record compiled by O. F. Pearre and W. G. McDowell.)

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

Company F was first organized in 1892 as the Pontiac Cadets, with A. J. Renoe as captain. This independent organization continued until 1896, when it was mustered into the Illinois National Guard, with A. J. Renoe as captain, L. F. Strawn as first lieutenant and Guy F. Whitson as second lieutenant.

In April, 1898, the company was ordered to Springfield, Ill., to be mustered into the United States Army for service in the Spanish-American War. Left Springfield May 14, 1898, by rail for Chickamauga Park, Ga., arriving at Camp George H. Thomas, May 16, 1898. Remained until July 21, 1898, when company

left by rail for Newport News, Va., arriving July 23, 1898. Embarked on auxiliary cruiser St. Louis, at Hampton Roads, July 28, 1898, for Porto Rico as a part of General Brooke's expedition, being assigned to General Peter C. Haines' second brigade of General J. H. Wilson's First Division. Arrived and landed at Arroyo, Porto Rico, August 2, 1898, under cover of fire from the battleship Massachusetts, converted cruiser Gloucester and auxiliary cruisers in transport fleet. Immediately after landing, each platoon of the company was ordered to occupy a Spanish outpost several miles from the town. The flag presented by the citizens of Pontiac was the first American flag raised in the Guayama and Cayey provinces of Porto Rico.

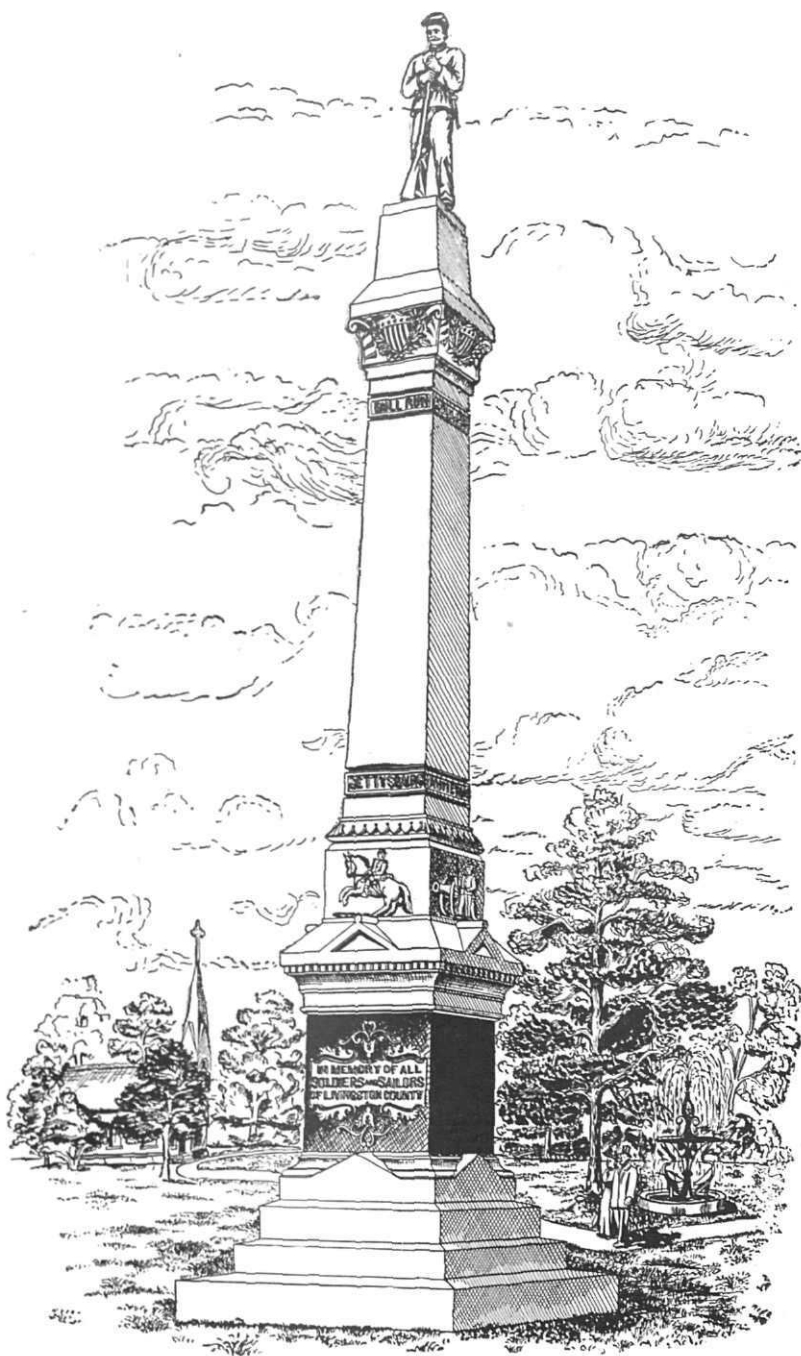
Relieved the second day and held as reserve force at English consulate, Guayama. Rejoined regiment and marched in the advance on Guayama with General Peter C. Haines' brigade. Occupied and marched through city with Major Jackson's battalion of the Third Illinois, Col. Fred Bennitt commanding. Assigned to outpost duty August 5 to 13, 1898. Marched as advance company in the advance on Spanish fortifications on road to San Juan in Cayey mountains, August 13, 1898, until recalled by peace protocol. Established headquarters in the vicinity of Guayama and was engaged in policing mountain district and disbanding guerilla forces until October, 1898. Relieved by the 47th N. Y. Infantry, camped near Arroyo. Embarked for New York, November 2, 1898, on transport Roumania. Mustered out of the United States service January 21, 1899, at Pontiac, which ended the existence of the company, as while absent on foreign service, the regiment had been mustered out of the Illinois National Guard.

Later on, a new company bearing the same name was organized by First Lieutenant L. F. Strawn; First Sergeant J. A. Sutherland; hospital steward, F. L. Eastman; sergeant, George M. Cairns; wagonmaster, Harry Herbert; musician Lon Hill; and sergeant, R. B. Wallace. This company is still active as a part of the state militia.

The following were the officers: Captain, Alexander J. Renoe; first lieutenant, Louis F. Strawn, second lieutenant, Guy F. Whitson; first sergeant, John A. Sutherland; quartermaster sergeant, James D. Marks; sergeants:

James F. Scouller, Carl J. Ross, James L. Reed, Jesse Duckett; corporals: Albert M. Witt, Albert E. Holland, Auguston H. Young, Michael Prandy, Charles Rinn, Charles Jenkins, Albert Jackson, Henry Graeber, William Thornton, John O'Dea, Clement Bell; musicians; Alonzo Hill, Milton Whitham; wagoner: Harry Herbert; artificer, Lemuel Holmes.

Privates: Carl Anderson, Ross Arnett, Otis Atteberry, Walter Begg, Frank Beamer, Valdis Beamer, Frank Bobzin, David Boyd, Lester Brewer, Clyde Brown, Edward Bruce, George Brumbach, George Cairns, Eugene Carrithers, Frank Chamberlain, George Chamberlain, Harry Chamberlain, Henry Chapman, Frank Compton, Albert Conover, Richard Cornell, Clarence Cox, Frank Dean, Herbert DeMoss, William De Voe, Frank Durlinger, Frank Edgington, Joseph Estes, Louis Falk, Frank Foulk, James Foulk, James Hall, William Henderson, Byron Herbert, Harry Herzberg, Louis Hill, William Hull, Louis Joerndt, Charles Jones, Emanuel Kirkeby, Frank Kneeland, George Leeds, David Lewis, William Lord, Reinhard Mattlin, Frank Megquier, George Megquier, Charles Miller, Calvin Mitchell, Thomas O'Hara, Benjamin Patterson, Chris Page, Charles Pearsall, George Pemberton, William Pepperdine, William Phelps, Peter Plowman, Paul Ramey, Frank Reichardt, Louis Schiffer, George Shreve, Alexander Slean, Albert Smith, George W. Smith, Frank Speicher, Thomas Stanley, Gaious Tallett, Everett Tate, Robert Wallace, Henry Wallis, Albert Wilson, William Wilson, Emmett Wood, Lee Wolfe, John Worrick. Transfers: Frank Eastman, Martin Kavanaugh and William Replogle to Reserve Ambulance Company, First Corps; John Daugherty to regimental band. Discharged before muster out of company: First Sergeant Edwin Miller July 21, 1898; Sergeant James Bowers, September 29, 1898; private Ray Eignus, December 30, 1898; private Charles Nagle, June 8, 1898. Deaths in service: Corporal Emanuel Landmann, at Philadelphia, Pa., September 28, 1898, from disease contracted in Porto Rico; private William Matheny, at Guayama, Porto Rico, September 10, 1898. Landmann's body was interred in South Dakota and Matheny's at Chenoa. (For some reminiscences of the Black Hawk War, see Chapter I, of this volume; and for a more extended history of that war see *Historical Encyclopedia*, (Vol. I), pp. 608-615.



MERKLE & SONS, PEORIA

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT, PONTIAC

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT.

In January, 1886, the first move was made by the old soldiers of Livingston County looking to the erection of a monument to the memory of its soldiers who rendered such noble service during the Civil War. When the first call to arms was sounded through the patriotic North for volunteers to crush the slaveholders' rebellion, 600 brave sons of Livingston County responded to the call. This number was largely increased by subsequent volunteers and recruits until the number was swelled from 600 to nearly 2,000. Of this large number, comparatively but few returned to their homes alive or without having contracted sickness which greatly shortened their lives. Many lie buried in the Southern soil where they fell fighting for their homes and country. It was thought at that time that the county should show its gratefulness to the heroes by the erection of a monument.

At the meeting of the board of supervisors in February, 1886, a committee from the board consisting of E. L. Stratton, Charles W. Rollins and William R. Marvin, was appointed to confer with a committee of soldiers of whom W. S. Sims, W. B. Fyfe, J. B. Parsons and H. H. McDowell were members. At that meeting of the board the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That we, the board of supervisors of Livingston County at the February meeting, 1886, order that a proposition be submitted at the April election of 1886 to be held in the several townships of the county to be voted upon by the legal voters thereof, viz.: whether they are in favor of the erection by this county of a soldiers' monument, the cost not to exceed one mill on the dollar of the taxable property of said county; that on each of the ballots there shall be printed or written the words, 'For Soldiers' Monument—Against Soldiers' Monument,' the party to erase the portion he is opposed to; that the board hereby order the county clerk to take the proper steps to carry out the above resolutions."

In the meantime, considerable discussion arose, principally among the old soldiers throughout the county in regard to the monument. Many were in favor of a monument in each township, while others favored a memorial of some kind. A meeting of the veterans of the county was held at the court house in Pontiac on Friday, February 27, 1886. The meeting favored the erection of a county soldiers' monument, but the opinion was expressed that any town in the county could raise

a monument to its deceased soldiers if it so wished, but a county monument seemed an absolute necessity, and the tax was very light. The proposition was voted on at the election held for township officers on Tuesday, April 6, 1886, and was defeated by a large majority.

From that time on but little attention was paid to the erection of a county monument in Livingston County. By an act of the legislature passed in 1899, boards of supervisors were granted power to levy a tax for such purpose on petition of the tax payers of the different counties. After the act became a law, petitions were immediately put in circulation in every township throughout the county. H. H. McDowell, S. M. Witt, E. L. Wilson, C. C. Strawn, J. B. Parsons and James A. Hoover were instrumental in circulating the petition, the same being filed by them in the office of the county clerk on the 12th day of August, 1900. At the September meeting of the board, the prayer of the petition was granted, and at the general election held on November 6, 1900, the people again voted on the proposition to erect a county soldiers' and sailors' monument. This time the proposition carried by a vote of 4,074 for and 3,596 against.

At the meeting of the supervisors in June, 1901, a committee was appointed looking to the erection of the monument consisting of James Bergan, M. Cleary, John W. Hoover, J. C. Diemer, A. H. Haag, M. De F. Wilder and Ira M. Lish. This committee visited several cities in the state where monuments had been erected. At the September meeting of the board, D. C. Avery was added to the committee. The location was also determined upon and the contract let to the Merkle & Sons of Peoria on their bid of \$12,153.50, the total cost of the monument. The monument was erected in the spring of 1903, and ready for unveiling on the 3rd day of June. It is one of the most beautiful soldier and sailor monuments in the state, the total height being fifty-six feet. The bottom base is 14 x 14, one foot eight inches, and the statue at the top is nine feet high, the whole weighing 337,255 pounds, or 168 tons.

After the completion of the monument, committee from the various Grand Army posts all over the county were appointed to look after the unveiling. President Roosevelt was invited to deliver the address on this occasion and promptly accepted. The date was set for June 3, 1903. On that day Pontiac was crowded with old soldiers

and citizens from all over the county and the people of Pontiac had made great preparations for the event, but the weather was against the proceedings, a severe rain storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, having set in about two hours previous to the arrival of President Roosevelt. When the special train bearing the president arrived at the Alton depot, the storm was at its height. Rain was pouring down in torrents and the streets of Pontiac were a sheet of water. Notwithstanding this, President Roosevelt alighted from the train and asked for the mayor of the city. Mayor Rathbun was soon at his side, a carriage was provided, and the President driven up town to the stand erected on the east side of the court house. Mounting the platform and facing an audience of less than a dozen people, President Roosevelt delivered the following address:

"Mr. Mayor and Fellow Citizens: I shall not try to make an extended speech. In the name of the people of Livingston County, by whom it has been erected, I dedicate this monument to those who have deserved it. I greet you all, and thank you for coming out in this rain; and I especially greet the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and these National Guards."

The address being finished, the President was escorted to his carriage and driven to the depot, not having been in Pontiac over fifteen minutes. The unveiling having been completed, the crowd soon dispersed.

OTHER MONUMENTS.

In the city cemetery at Pontiac, there is a granite monument about sixteen feet in height, consisting of a shaft surmounted by a statue, erected by T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R., and dedicated by these veterans May 30, 1902, to the memory of the missing comrades of the Civil War. In Forrest Township, in the rural cemetery, there is a gray granite shaft, sixteen feet in height, erected in 1883 at a cost of \$400, and dedicated to the memory of Captain Otis Asa Burgess of the Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At Fairbury, in the city park, cannon have been mounted on a stone foundation and dedicated August 20, 1902, to the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Union. The work was done under the auspices of Aaron Weider post, G. A. R., at a cost of \$150 contributed by the members of the post. A fine monument was

erected in 1905 to the memory of the old soldiers in the new cemetery at Cullom.

ANNUAL REUNION 129TH REGIMENT.

The annual reunion of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry was held in Pontiac, Thursday, October 8, 1908, and was largely attended by the surviving members of the regiment, who had an enjoyable experience talking over old times. The reunion took on the form of a reunion of all old soldiers, irrespective of regiment or company. This feature added to the interest of the occasion although such had not been planned by those having the matter in charge.

The business sessions were held in the club-rooms of the Elks, who kindly donated the use of the same. Following a short preliminary address at 1:30 P. M., the meeting got down to business. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Delos Robinson.

Vice-President, A. P. Pemberton.

Secretary, Hugh Thompson.

Treasurer, R. D. Folks (since deceased).

Executive Committee: William Thompson, Jacob Farr, Delos Robinson, Hugh Thompson and James H. Gaff.

Following the closing of the business meeting the members of the regiment and the visiting old soldiers were given a carriage ride about the city by the citizens. About twenty-five autos were furnished and the old soldiers shown about the city. At the head of the auto parade was a fife and drum corps, which furnished music all along the route. Following the auto ride, the members of the regiment, as well as the other old soldiers present, organized in parade formation and marched around the court house square headed by the fife and drum corps. The parade ended at the soldiers' and sailors' monument, where a brief memorial service was held. The speakers were C. C. Strawn and L. C. Wright, both of Pontiac.

The following members of the regiment were present and registered:

Delos Robinson, of Sheridan, Ill.; Hugh Thompson, George Worthington, A. P. Pemberton, James H. Gaff, R. D. Folks and D. J. Lyons, of Pontiac; T. St. John, J. W. Whiteside, Eli L. Lower, of Lanark, Ill.; O. O. Leonard, of Manville, Ill.; J. S. Johnson, of Sibley; Jacob Farr, of Onarga. F. M. VanDoren, of Flanagan; L. Morse, William McLoud, of Odell; Nathan

Springer, of Graymont; Eben Perry, of Urbana; D. W. Blake, of Cornell; C. L. Dunham, of Avoca; S. McQuinn, of Streator; William Thompson, Curtis J. Judd, of Dwight; William Jencks, of Ottawa; J. E. Fitzgerald, of Fairbury; Andrew Stuart, of Kempton.

Other veterans attending the reunion were: L. C. Wright, P. Hendershott, J. B. Parsons, W. H. Hessin, R. C. Huntoon, A. Harrison, S. M. Witt, Robert Watts, I. H. Miles, D. C. Stockham, E. H. Ferguson, H. L. Ogden, D. Worthley, James W. DeMoss, D. B. Walker, Chas. Peppard, J. C. Huetson, R. E. Jacobs, S. C. Breckenridge, J. B. Cummings, H. M. Carney, H. Hierth, J. W. A. Lilly, Z. F. Carroll, W. H. Blanchard, R. C. Ross, E. C. Zellman, Hugh Fitzgerald, D. C. Avery, C. A. McGregor, David Murphy, J. A. Hoover, A. Des Voigne, B. Schaub, J. C. Antrin, R. Kingore, S. J. Prisk, C. McClellan and B. F. Meyer.

The ranks of the old soldiers are thinning out, and the survivors, who meet in reunions, are for the most part showing plainly the marks of time and the effects of their service in behalf of the union. It was from Pontiac that the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth, in the full vigor of youth and patriotic impulses, went to the front in 1862 amid the prayers and tears and fears of those left behind. Today, but comparatively few are left, but Pontiac in years past has given them a cordial welcome, and shows that they are not forgotten, but are held in loving remembrance.

CHAPTER XI.

EDUCATIONAL.

SOME POINTS IN REFERENCE TO CONDITIONS IN EARLY SCHOOLS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—A TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE AND DAYS OF THE LOG SCHOOL HOUSE—HISTORY OF THE FIRST ACADEMY—THE PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL—CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES—LUTHERAN AND AMISH SCHOOLS—THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS—COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS—PROGRESS UNDER DIFFERENT INCUMBENTS—ADOPTION OF A UNIFORM TEXT-BOOK SYSTEM—REPORTS OF EARLY TEACHERS' INSTITUTES—GENERAL SCHOOL STATISTICS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY FOR 1908—PONTIAC PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The early history of education in Livingston County is not unlike that of the average. The early pioneers were a hardy lot, and lived up to their ideals, quite as closely as do their descendants and successors today. After providing the necessary food and clothing for their families, they took measures for the improvement and development of the mind. Then, as now, they evinced a laudable pride in their schools, and did not stint themselves in their support.

In those times the school laws were almost inoperative because of their crudeness, and instead of the state or county directing affairs, it was largely left to the whim of the district officials. Political pull prevailed then as now, whereby incompetents, measured by the short and scanty requirements of the times, were able to secure positions for which they were unfitted, as is evidenced by the following true story (except that the actual names of the commissioner and teacher are not given):

Richard Roe wished to teach school in District One, Indian Grove. He had been examined by John Doe, Commissioner, and found unfit. He went back to District One, and reported his failure. His friends, with a pull, got busy, and sent Mr. Roe back to Commissioner Doe, armed with credentials. Mr. Doe finally issued a permit which read as follows:

"This is to certify, that Richard Roe is qualified to teach in District One, Indian Grove, and no other d——n spot this side of Hell.

"JOHN DOE,

"School Commissioner."

Things are changed now. The Superintendent may bow to the party boss, and there are no doubt, modern instances of it, yet the certificate granted is valid in any district in the county and may be so used, hence being likely to cut both ways, operates as a brake on pulls.

The early school house was built of logs, with split logs for seats. The idea of a back seat, or a desk or a shelf for the deposit of books had, as yet, not been evolved. The transition from that condition to the comfortable and scientifically constructed school room equipment of today has been gradual, but has ever had the loyal support of the people. The sentiment seems to have prevailed that nothing is too good for our schools. This is generally true. However, there are a few exceptions. There are a few houses that appear like huge dry-goods boxes, and are about as attractive and con-

venient. Happily, like the dews of the morning, they are fading away, and are rapidly becoming memories.

A LIVINGSTON COUNTY ACADEMY.

At the very beginning of her development, Livingston County took steps to provide for higher education. In 1856, New Michigan Academy was established by the following gentlemen: Washington Houston, William Strawn, Otis Whitney, C. P. Paget, Eben Norton, G. C. Cusick and Moses Rumney. A building was soon provided and a faculty secured, of which E. B. Nevell was the head or President. The school was in operation one year, but not having a sustaining attendance.

Course of Study, New Michigan Academy.

"Music—Tuition \$8 per quarter; rent of piano, \$3 per term.

Literary Course—Reading—McGuffey; Geography—Mitchell's; Arithmetic—Ray; English Grammar; Algebra—Ray; Composition—Parker; History—Goodrich; Physiology—Cutler; Latin Grammar—Anton; Cornelius Nepo—Anton; Caesar's Commentaries—Anton; Painting and Drawing; Tuition per term \$5 to \$7; Board, including room rent and fuel \$2.

The first term begins the second Monday in September and continues 21 weeks; second term the remainder of the season. Vacation, second Wednesday in June, to second Monday of September; Xmas to New Year,—Another about April 1st.

This school is located twelve miles northwest of Pontiac and eight miles west of Odell. Address all communications to New Michigan Academy, Livingston County, Ill."

The academy was closed for two years, when it was again put in operative condition with Otho F. Pearre, as President. Under his administration, it was very successful for a period of three years, when he withdrew and moved to Pontiac, and for a few years the effort was made to continue it, but being badly located, it soon became one of the institutions that were.

Such, in brief, is the history of the only academy (parochial excepted) that has ever flourished in this county. At the present time the county is well provided with schools. A very complete education may be had at the various public schools, the best of which is the township High School located at Pontiac. The fol-

lowing history of it will be of general interest and value:

PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL.

The Pontiac Township High School was organized in 1894, school opening in September of that year. The first Board of Education was composed of R. R. Wallace, President; James A. Hoover, Secretary; Charles H. Tuesburg, George B. Gray and W. F. Cook, members. Since that time the following gentlemen have served as efficient members of the Board and have been untiring in their efforts to make the school what it now stands for. Presidents, George B. Gray, George Torrence, S. A. Rathbun, Dr. J. D. Scouller; Secretaries, W. F. Cook, S. A. Rathbun, Dr. John Ross, E. A. Simmons, C. E. DeButts; Members, Edgar Cook, Peter Munson, J. W. Marks, C. R. Tombaugh, C. E. Legg, Dr. J. A. Marshall, George Crawford, F. G. White.

The original faculty of the school was composed of the following instructors: J. E. Bangs, Principal; C. E. DeButts, Assistant; Mary E. Jones, Margaret Stewart, Frances Simpson, Mrs. M. A. Vaughan. The following instructors have since been employed at different times: Alice A. Blanchard, Margaret M. Bangs, Margaret Power, Lydia McDougall, Cora M. Hamilton, J. Milton Vance, Arthur F. Wallace, Isaac Mitchell, H. E. Longnecker, David B. Thomas, Amanda Hubbard, Margaretta S. Easley, Ida M. Tindall, Kenneth G. Smith, Wm. G. Turnbull, Mary Kirk Rider, Margaret McKibben, Mary E. Powell, Mrs. U. W. Louderback, Emma A. Barry, Ada E. Herbert, John A. Brittenham, Mabel F. Barr, Hallie Chalfant, Hattie Wasmuth, Robert Parr, J. T. Kirk, W. W. McCulloch, George W. Dowrie, Lloyd Dancey, E. B. Wells, George Sype, Myrtle Ballard, Esther Mohr, Helen Mar Scouller.

The original value of the building and grounds of the Pontiac High School was about \$30,000, to which additions have been made aggregating \$20,000.

The whole number of students enrolled since the school started is 1,436. Of this number 266 have completed the four years' course and received the diploma of the school, besides the large number who have received certificates from the two-year courses and have gone out to occupy responsible positions as teachers or in the professional or business world.



PONTIAC TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, PONTIAC

The enrollment and attendance of the students for the different years is shown by the following table:

Year	Boys	Girls	Total	Av.
1894-5	97	134	231	186
1895-6	93	137	230	180
1896-7	110	125	235	189
1897-8	101	135	236	191
1898-9	112	133	245	181
1899-00	114	104	218	167
1900-01	102	136	238	177
1901-02	99	134	233	185
1902-03	119	165	284	232
1903-04	107	160	267	218
1904-05	104	173	277	231
1905-06	124	176	300	245
1906-07	115	150	265	226

The school has been patronized not only by the students of Pontiac Township, but by a large number of ambitious young men and women who have come from outside the township and have added in no small degree to the standing of the school.

The amounts received in tuition fees have been as follows:

1894-1902 (First eight years)	\$7,300
1902-1903	1,476
1903-1904	1,554
1904-1905	1,626
1905-1906	2,506
1906-1907	2,263

From the start the spirit of the Pontiac Township High School has been entirely democratic as is shown by the fact that students have come to us from the family of the professional man, and from that of the business man, mechanic, farmer, laborer, in fact from almost every walk of life. The influence of the school on the community is felt in the immediate life of the township, in the higher education of very many of our young men and women and in the other parts of the county through the large number of our students who have become teachers.

Admission.

Pupils who have completed the work of the grammar department of a graded school of good standing, or who hold a diploma issued by the County Superintendent, certifying that they have completed the work outlined for the common schools for the first eight years, or who hold a teacher's second grade certificate, will be admitted without examination.

Advanced standing in any course will be granted upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence of work done in a high school of good standing, or upon examination in those subjects for which credit is desired.

Tuition.

All students who are bona fide residents of Pontiac Township will be admitted free. Non-resident students will be required to pay a tuition fee of \$15 per term. The tuition may be paid by the month, term or year, in advance, to the secretary, who will receipt therefor. In case of doubt as to the residence of the student, the parent or guardian may be required to furnish an affidavit setting forth the facts in the case.

The course of study is a good one, and we give it in detail. It will be interesting to compare it with that of New Michigan Academy.

COURSES OF STUDY.

Latin-Scientific

First Year—English, Latin, Algebra, Physiology—2-3, Zoology—1-3.

Second Year—Ancient History, Cæsar, Plane Geometry, Zoology—1-3, Botany—2-3.

Third Year—English, Cicero, English and American History, Physics.

Fourth Year—English, Virgil, Algebra-Geometry, Political Economy, Chemistry.

Latin-German

First Year—English, Latin, Algebra, Physiology—2-3, Zoology—1-3.

Second Year—Ancient History, Cæsar, Plane Geometry, Zoology—1-3, Botany—2-3.

Third Year—English, German, English and American History, Physics.

Fourth Year—English, German, Algebra-Geometry, Chemistry, Political Economy.

English

First Year—English, Physical Geography—1-2, Political or Commercial Geography—1-2, Algebra, Physiology—2-3, Zoology—1-3.

Second Year—Ancient History, Bookkeeping, Plane Geometry, Zoology—1-3, Botany—2-3.

Third Year—English, German, English and American History, Physics.

Fourth Year—English, German, Algebra-Geometry, Chemistry, Political Economy, Reviews.

Normal

First Year—Grammar, Physical Geography—1-2, Political Geography—1-2, Arithmetic, U. S. History.

Second Year—English, Pedagogy, Civics—History of Illinois, Algebra, Physiology—2-3, Zoology—1-3.

Third Year—English, Ancient History, Plane Geometry, Zoology—1-3, Botany—2-3.

Fourth Year—English, English and American History, Algebra-Geometry, Bookkeeping, Political Economy, Physics, Reviews.

Commercial

First Year—Grammar, Physical Geography—1-2, Commercial Geography—1-2, Arithmetic, U. S. History.

Second Year—English, Bookkeeping, Algebra, Ancient History, Physiology, Zoology.

Third Year—Bookkeeping—2-3, Commercial Law—1-3, German, Plane Geometry, Zoology and Botany, English and American History.

Fourth Year—German, Political Economy, Physics, English, Algebra, Geometry, Chemistry.

All students are required to take the following general work: Spelling until carried at 95 per cent; Rhetorical equivalent to four exercises a year; Music, Drawing, Elocution and Physical Culture for an equivalent of two lessons a week for two years. Extra credit will be given for advance work in any of these branches. No extra charge for lessons in any of the regular classes. Manual training work may be elected in any course.

OTHER HIGHER INSTITUTIONS.—Of the many very excellent schools, we call attention to the Academy at Chatsworth; Academy at Odell; Academy at Loretta; Academy at Pontiac—all Catholic. The Lutheran school at Flanagan, and the Amish schools of Pike and Waldo Townships.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

The common district schools are of unusual efficiency, and their beginning was fully as crude as was that of the early academy, and their advancement has been as marked as that shown by the high schools.

From teaching six days per week, building their own fires, about which was often serious controversy, the teaching time is now five days and, by construction of law, the teacher is declared not to be a janitor, hence not a fire-builder or floor-sweeper.

The following is a list of Commissioners and Superintendents of Schools who have served in Livingston County, with date of appointment or election:

COMMISSIONERS.

James C. McMillan, appointed by court December 4, 1838.

Robert Smith, appointed May 9, 1839.

John W. Reynolds, appointed August, 1840.

Samuel Boyer, elected August, 1841, and again in 1843.

August Fellows, elected August, 1845.

Walter Cornell, elected November, 1849.

H. H. Hinman, elected November, 1853 and 1855.

James H. Hagerty, elected November, 1857.

I. P. Whittemore, elected November, 1859.

John W. Smith, elected November, 1861.

O. F. Pearre, elected November, 1863.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

H. H. Hill, elected 1865 and served eight years.

M. Tombaugh, elected 1873 and served nine years.

George W. Ferris, elected 1882 and served eight years.

H. A. Foster, elected 1890 and served four years.

C. R. Tombaugh, elected 1894 and served seven years.

W. E. Herbert, appointed by Board of Supervisors, September, 1901, still serving.

Many of these officials had a strong desire to improve the schools, but the limited power conferred on them by law, to enforce measures of betterment, blocked success for a long time. It is probably true that all were impressed with the necessity of a uniform book system as the first necessary forward step. At the teachers' institute of 1858, an abortive effort was made to make the books in the county uniform. The conditions of the times are well expressed by an educator of that day. Under the present system—rather no system—the influence is equally deleterious both to the advancement of the pupil and the pockets of the parents.

Superintendent H. H. Hill secured pretty nearly uniform books, under his administration, but there the work ended, and soon things drifted back to old conditions. Matthew Tombaugh, his successor, strove to secure the systematiza-

tion of school work, and held school examinations, but the multiplicity of books defeated ultimate success.

G. W. Ferris, the successor of Mr. Tombaugh, put forth strong effort for the advancement of district schools, but the same conditions operated to block success. Both of these men wrought well, spent their best efforts and none today are held in higher esteem than they.

Henry A. Foster, was the successor of G. W. Ferris in December, 1890. Then strenuous times in educational affairs began. In 1901, Mr. Foster took a stand for better things, and declared that what the law did not bar him from doing he had the right to do in the advancement of education. This was the reverse of former conditions and practice. Six things were declared necessary by him to bring about desired results: (1) A uniform system of text-books; (2) A course of study; (3) Monthly and term reports from teachers; (4) Monthly and term examination of district schools; (5) The education of the teachers—how to use the course of study and conduct the examinations; (6) The annual issuance of county diplomas and holding of graduation exercises for the country schools. He boldly announced his plan and determination, and, through the medium of township meetings, presented the matter to the people for their approval, and the wonder of it all, secured it. The people having chosen their delegates to the county convention to consider the matter and select the books, instructed each delegate, if he found himself in the minority at any time, to change his vote to the majority, thus making the action of the convention unanimous.

Thus a uniform system was provided, the books chosen, terms arranged, and the day set—December 1, 1891—when the exchange should be made. The people did not wait for the directors to sign contracts, but changed anyway. Thus, in ten days the exchange was effected, and school books were uniform in Livingston County.

It was now up to the County Superintendent to make good. Institutes were called and careful papers prepared, instructing teachers how to use the new books. These papers were published in one of the county papers and freely distributed to teachers and directors. All this was ably seconded by "The School News," a monthly publication issued from the Superintendent's office. Then came the building of the

course of study, which was placed in the teachers' hands in August, 1892. The teachers were now plainly told their fitness to teach would be measured by their success in using the course of study, holding examinations and making prompt report to the Superintendent. Thus was a long forward step taken—a step that riveted the eyes of the entire State on Livingston County. The Superintendent was ably supported by the following persons, as well as by a host not mentioned: C. R. Tombaugh, C. M. Hamilton (Assistant County Superintendent), C. Slaughhaugh, C. E. DeButts, Margaret Powell, J. E. Bangs, Ada Peart, Amanda Hubbard, and the entire county press. Everything worked out as planned, and the success was more complete than the most ardent had hoped for.

Mr. C. R. Tombaugh succeeded Mr. Foster, and he ably carried on the work, thus firmly established, and improved it in such degree as to leave nothing for his successor to do but to follow the well marked and beaten pathway.

Now note changed conditions. In announcing the Institute, the Superintendent, following the precedent established in 1891, says: "Every teacher is expected to be present, only illness excusing." All are present to the individual and general profit.

At the present time, everything is working nicely, profitably, under the county course, which has been found so good, so practicable, as to be adopted for use in the eighth grades of nearly all the city and village schools of the county.

EARLY TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

The first teachers' institute to assemble in Livingston County was held at New Michigan Academy in Newtown Township, on January 8, 1858, the following being the published call for the same: "Feeling the want of a more general system of co-operation in our endeavors to impart instruction to the youths that attend the various schools, and being of the opinion that the meeting of the teachers and friends of education, and a free interchange of views on the mode of teaching would conduce greatly to improve our schools, we therefore call attention of the teachers of the county to a meeting to be held at the New Michigan Academy on January 8, 1858, for the purpose of organizing a Teachers' Institute. Let nothing prevent your coming. Provisions have been made for as many as may

come.—E. B. Neville, Principal New Michigan Academy."

The meeting was very poorly attended, caused, no doubt, by its location in the extreme north-western part of the county, and the sessions were therefore necessarily short. The committee on resolutions, in submitting their report for adoption, had embodied in them the following: "That we will consider *every teacher unworthy* the profession, that may not attend these meetings." This resolution excommunicating every teacher that did not attend the meeting, was afterwards the subject of much comment by the teachers throughout the county.

At the second County Teachers' Institute, held in Pontiac, April 1-3, 1858, M. Gower, S. L. Manker and E. B. Neville, the committee appointed to select a series of text-books to be used in the public schools, was reported as follows, said report being unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the cause of education in Livingston County demands of the teachers of the county a warmer interest in its behalf and a more thorough qualification for their duties, and that, to promote these objects, our teachers' institute is earnestly commended to their attention.

"*Resolved*, That a uniform system of text-books, the extended circulation of 'The Illinois Teacher,' and other papers on education, and the frequent meeting of teachers' institutes are the most important prerequisites for the promotion of common school education.

"*Resolved*, That we are of the opinion that McGuffey's Speller and Reader, Ray's Arithmetic, Mitchell's Geography, Pinneo's Grammar and Sander's Speller, are the best adapted to our common schools, and would recommend them to be used."

The officers elected were: President, James H. Hagerty; vice presidents, S. S. Saul, Pontiac; T. A. Jones, Indian Timber; W. G. McDowell, Avoca; Eli Myer, Eppards Point; J. L. Peck, New Michigan; E. G. Rice, Sunbury; Orlando Chubbuck, Long Point. At this time there was no County Superintendent of schools. James H. Hagerty was the School Commissioner. Not a female teacher was in attendance at this institute.

Pursuant to previous notice, the third teachers' institute, assembled at the court house in Pontiac on Monday, December 27, 1858, at 2 o'clock P. M., under the charge of Dr. C. C.

Hoagland of Tazewell county, and organized by choosing Reuben Macy permanent secretary, and John W. Smith and Miss Mary Murphy a committee of reception. The following persons enrolled their names as members of the institute: John Peck, S. L. Manker, N. W. Pearson, John W. Smith, L. Swett, A. G. Pratt, E. Finley, Reuben Macy, Mary Murphy, A. E. Hanley, George W. Knapp, Ann E. Eths, Marietta E. Bennett, Ellen M. Johnson, William J. Murphy, Emily F. Bailey, Pontiac; R. Springer, Isaac G. Mott, Dwight; S. B. Johnson, Eben W. Gower, B. A. Gower, Sunbury; M. C. Kingsbury, E. J. Udell, Rev. H. H. Hinman, Elizabeth A. Walton, New Michigan; Jane M. Pearson, Cayuga; J. L. McDowell, Fairbury; J. W. Richmond, Chenoa; Ann E. McDowell and Mary A. White, Avoca. The institute was in session five days, adjourning on Friday evening, Dr. C. C. Hoagland of Tazewell county and M. T. Hutchinson of Chemung were the conductors. The first and second days, proceedings were given over to the conductors, who made appropriate addresses on education in the common schools. A "court of errors," for the purpose of correcting ungrammatical expressions dropped by any member during the session, was held, the name of the teacher making the error being omitted. The ready lesson came first in order, particular attention being directed to articulation. Exercises in critical reading were had, followed by exercises in the vocal and consonant sounds and their combinations. Then came lessons in arithmetic, and the different methods of teaching geography and grammar. We note from the proceedings of the institute that a pleasant and instructive lesson was had in astronomy, almanacs being used as text-books. Much good was accomplished at the institute, every teacher enrolled being present at each session, and the lecturers were given close attention. After thanking the people of Pontiac for their hospitality in entertaining the teachers free of cost at their homes, it was resolved, "That our thanks are due to the Board of Supervisors for the liberal appropriation (\$100) which they made for the support of the institute," and "That we return to our several schools with an ardent desire to improve ourselves as teachers, according to the valuable suggestions of our instructors; and notwithstanding that we feel more than ever our imperfections, we are encouraged to press forward towards a higher standard of excellence in our arduous

and responsible stations, and we have learned charity and sympathy for each other."

The fourth institute convened in Pontiac on December 26, 1859. Reuben Macey was chairman and E. J. Udell secretary. Motion to elect officers for the year 1860 was carried, upon which the following officers were elected: President, Otho Pearre; vice president, S. S. Saul; secretary, J. W. Smith; treasurer, J. L. McDowell. The following were appointed as the executive committee: I. T. Whittemore, E. J. Udell, N. J. Pillsbury, L. K. Westcott, J. H. Coe, John Peck and Reuben Macey. On motion, Webster's dictionary was adopted as the standard authority of the institute during its session. Some of the schools of the county were conducted six days in the week previous to this institute, but at this session it was resolved, "that a careful investigation has convinced us that scholars will advance faster in their studies with five days' school each week than with six." Soon after this, the system of five school days each week was adopted all over the county.

The fifth institute met at the Bureau school house in Nebraska Township September 24, 1860, with a small attendance. Those present were: Otho Pearre, Jr., Nathaniel J. Pillsbury, E. J. Udell, J. W. Smith, H. H. McDowell, J. H. Hotchkins, Miss L. Macy, S. C. Pillsbury, D. L. Murdock, Miss M. E. Porter, J. P. Herrick, John Peck, Miss S. J. Peck, Miss L. Maxwell, Mrs. Mary J. McGregor, Mr. Craig, Miss E. J. Miller, Miss J. C. Smith, N. Darnall, J. J. Doolittle, Miss M. E. Pillsbury, M. Peck, B. F. Fitch, Mr. Kenyon, J. M. Groves, Miss Brown, M. M. Tremble, Reuben Macy. The following officers were elected for the next year: President, Prof. Otho Pearre, Jr.; vice president, Nathaniel J. Pillsbury; recording secretary, John W. Smith; treasurer, I. T. Whittemore. During this session, Prof. Otho Pearre, Jr., read his celebrated poem on "Folly," which was well received. The following resolution was offered and discussed at length: "*Resolved*, That corporal punishment should not be used in school." Affirmative, E. J. Udell, A. J. Anderson, Reuben Macy, J. W. Smith and D. L. Murdock; negative, N. J. Pillsbury, I. T. Whittemore, Otho Pearre and I. P. Herrick. Many differences arose when the question, "Which is the oldest permanent settlement in the United States of America?" The majority said "Jamestown," in Virginia; the minority and the conductor said, "St. Augustine," in Florida.

The following question was offered, discussed and laid on the table:

"*Resolved*, That the School Commissioner should not grant a certificate to anyone who chews tobacco."

SCHOOL STATISTICS OF 1908.

Livingston County in 1908, had 8,592 children of all ages enrolled in its public schools. The total number of persons between six and twenty-one is 11,296, so that it will be seen that the bulk of the children are where they should be, in school. In round numbers the county pays a quarter of a million dollars for the education of its younger generation, the average annual cost of schooling last year for children of all ages being \$25.64.

If the people nowadays had large families as they used to have, it would almost bankrupt the people to keep up their school taxes, but the chances are that, if the average family was quite large, the per capita cost would be considerably lower, for in many districts there could be a very considerable increase in the pupils and they could be cared for by the same number of teachers now employed.

The school population of Livingston County has increased, but not as some might think, for the migration from this county westward and to large cities, like Chicago, has been going on steadily for many years, and this has served to keep down the population and naturally the number of children of school age.

Reports from all over the county show that there are 8,162 boys under twenty-one years of age and 7,906 girls, a total of 16,068. Taking the total population of the county at 47,000—for that is just about what it is—it will be seen that the youngsters form no inconsiderable part of the whole. Boys between six and twenty-one years of age number 5,696 and girls 5,600, a total of school age of 11,296. The boys in graded schools are 1,991, girls 2,073; boys in ungraded schools, 2,318, and girls, 2,210, or a total in all public schools in the county of 8,592.

The county has twenty-six graded schools and 235 ungraded. Graded schools were in session 231 months and ungraded 1,921½, a total of 2,152½ months. The total months taught by teachers was 3,066. The days attendance in graded schools was 626,702 and in ungraded schools 543,232. The county has eighteen brick school houses and 243 frame buildings, the

buildings, houses and grounds being valued at \$587,695.

Two hundred and forty-two districts have libraries, and the new books purchased during the year were 852. The total number of volumes now in school libraries in the county aggregate 22,067, and the value of the libraries is given at \$13,360.

Nine private schools are reported. In these schools are 666 pupils—320 boys and 346 girls.

The highest wages paid any male teacher was \$244.44 and the best received by any woman teacher \$133.33. The lowest wage for men was \$37.50 and for women, \$30.

District tax levy was \$199,851.37, the income from township funds was \$13,750.11 and from the distributable fund \$8,792.23. All school treasurers had on hand, June 30, 1907, \$111,312.29 of district funds, against \$123,693.11 on the same date this year.

Special taxes, including railroad and back taxes, amounted to \$209,426.71.

Men teachers in graded schools earned \$17,087.46, and women, \$52,174.37, a total of \$69,262.83 paid in salaries to graded school teachers.

Men in ungraded schools earned \$8,468.69, and women, \$71,148.13, a total of \$79,616.82.

Outside of teachers' salaries there was paid out for fuel, janitor, insurance and incidentals, \$27,384.67, and principal on district bonds, \$12,631.78.

The total bonded indebtedness of all schools is \$85,900.

The amount of sixteenth-section school lands still retained by School Trustees, is but 660 acres. Fayette owns all of its sixteenth section and Chatsworth owns twenty acres in an adjoining township.

PONTIAC PUBLIC LIBRARY.

(BY MISS NELL THORNTON, LIBRARIAN.)

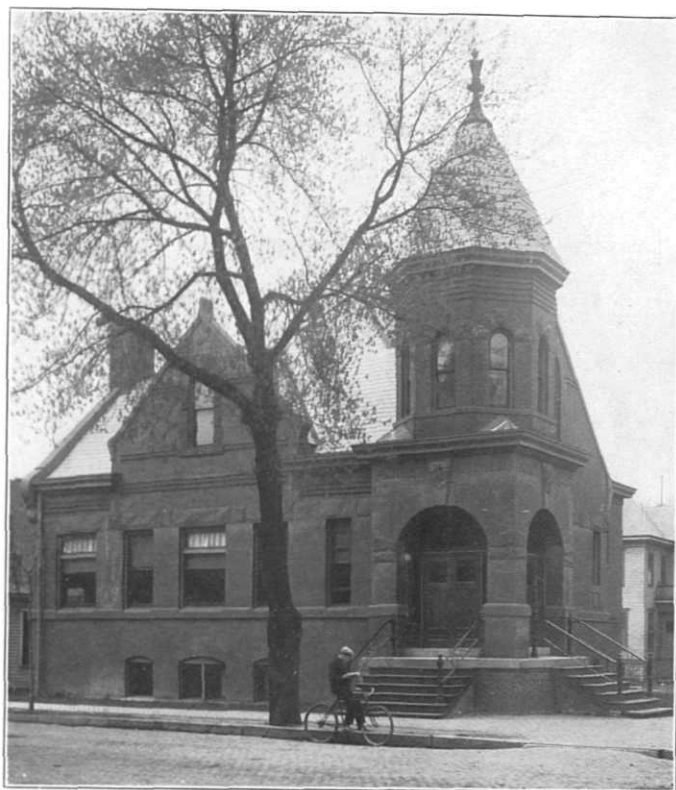
The library movement in Pontiac began in 1881. Its promoters were Dr. J. J. Stites, William B. Fyfe and Byron Woolverton. These gentlemen made an active membership and money canvass, which resulted in the establishment of the Pontiac Library Association with a membership of forty and a fund of \$100. One hundred volumes were purchased and placed in the drug store of Dr. J. W. Filkins, with Byron Woolverton as librarian. The membership grew and books were gradually added, always with the end in view that this library

might form the nucleus of a public library whenever the city council deemed it wise to establish one.

In 1892, Mrs. H. A. Foster and Miss May Waters, representing the society of King's Daughters, accompanied by Henry A. Foster, called upon the city council individually, laying the matter before them so successfully that the desired ordinance was soon passed and a library board appointed according to statute and organized with Mrs. Henry A. Foster, president; Mrs. O. P. Bourland, secretary. The other members were Charles Barickman, Edgar P. Holly, Edward O. Reed, J. A. Marshall, A. E. Harding, Charles A. McGregor and Dr. J. J. Stites, who afterwards became secretary.

The King's Daughters promptly donated \$50. Later some of the young men of the city donated \$42.25, the proceeds of an entertainment given by them. A bicycle tournament was held during the summer and ten per cent of the gate receipts were donated.

One of the most public-spirited men of the community was Judge Billings P. Babcock. Dr. J. J. Stites and Charles A. McGregor, believing that Mr. Babcock would gladly give substantial help, told him of the efforts being made and asked him to join in the work. Mr. Babcock deeded to the board the two blocks of land now occupied by the township high school. This was then sold to D. S. Myers for \$3,200, Mr. Myers at the same time donating \$400. The present library site was then purchased of Miss Eliza Gilroy for \$800. Bonds for \$5,000 were now issued in order to get the amount necessary for the building. Plans and specifications drawn by Weschelberger & Janowitz of Peoria were approved by the city council and accepted by the board, and H. C. Miller, also of Peoria, received the contract. The building was finished in the spring of 1894, and was formally opened on the evening of May 24th. Prayer was offered by the Rev. D. K. Campbell, special music rendered by Vaughan's orchestra, a ladies' quartet, a stringed quintet, and addresses given by Mrs. Henry A. Foster, Major R. W. McLaughry and Rev. Thomas Doney. During the evening, Pontiac's artist, George E. Colby, presented a picture called "Pontiac in 1794," Mr. Colby painted this picture especially for the library. It is on a 2½x4foot canvass and represents that portion of the river just below the bridge. An Indian encampment is pictured on what is now the



PUBLIC LIBRARY, PONTIAC



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, PONTIAC

county jail site. A party of Indian hunters bearing their game is seen crossing the lowland on the opposite side and fording the river. The work is beautifully executed and is much admired even by those who know nothing of Pontiac's early days. The older residents especially like it, declaring it to be a very true reproduction of the river and its banks as known to them in their youth.

The library furniture was purchased with money raised by subscription, Mrs. Harriet Humiston giving \$50, many others smaller amounts.

In July, 1904, Miss Nell Thornton was appointed librarian, and Miss Irene Warren of Armour Institute was engaged to work with her for one month to instruct her in library methods.

The reading room was supplied with a dozen monthly periodicals, four weeklies, several Chicago dailies and the local papers. For the first year most of these were given. The barbers gave the *Cosmopolitan*, the *Clionian* society the *Century*, the *Vermilion Club*, *Harper's*, and other societies, churches and individuals subscribing for others. The running expenses until 1897, were met by appropriation made by the city council from unappropriated funds. At the 1897 session of the legislature, Oscar F. Avery, representative from this district, presented a bill which was passed providing for the levy of a tax of two mills on the dollar for the special maintenance of libraries and reading rooms in towns of over 2,000 population. Under this law, the city council passed an ordinance directing the annual levy of one mill on every dollar of taxable property within the city, this to be independent of the regular two per cent levy allowed by law for this purpose and known as the library fund. Up to this time, the number of volumes increased slowly, but with the steady growth of the city the library fund has also steadily grown, which means an increased outlay for the purchase of books. In the beginning, the Pontiac library association gave its 800 volumes. For a number of years lecture courses and other entertainments were given, which materially increased the amount for book purchasing. Liberal donations, either in books, or in money for the purchase of books, were made by the *Clionian* society, the kindergarten board, Major R. W. McLaughry, Mrs. D. S. Myers, the Misses Hamilton, Mrs. Harriet Humis-

ton, Miss Mayme Brydia, and other societies and individuals. The most constant donor has been and is Dr. J. J. Stites. Money, books, time and labor have all been given freely by him. No personal sacrifice has been too great, if by making it he might be enabled to further the interests of the library. Besides the donations, about 4,500 books have been purchased out of the library fund, there now being over 5,500 books owned by the library.

In the fourteen years since its establishment more than 3,600 members have been enrolled and over 300,000 books drawn for home reading. Improvements have also been made in the building. The wooden steps have been replaced by iron; the plastered ceiling by steel, the board floors in the basement by concrete, and over 600 feet of shelving has been added to the original 300 feet.

CHAPTER XII.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY BENCH AND BAR.

EARLY LAWYERS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—WOODFORD G. MCDOWELL THE FIRST LAWYER TO LOCATE IN THE COUNTY—OTHER PRACTITIONERS WHO HAD A NOTABLE CAREER—JUDGE BILLINGS P. BABCOCK, JOHN H. MCGREGOR, ALFRED E. HARDING, JASON W. STREVELL, JOHN B. PERRY, LEWIS E. PAYSON, JUDGE N. J. PILLSBURY AND OTHERS WHO ESTABLISHED NOTABLE REPUTATIONS—PERSONAL SKETCHES OF LAWYERS OF THE PRESENT DAY—LIVINGSTON COUNTY JUDGES.

As Woodford G. McDowell is so celebrated in the early history of Livingston County, we are interested in every detail we can get concerning him. Without doubt, Mr. McDowell was the first resident attorney to practice the profession of law in the county, although there is no record that he was ever admitted to the bar. While operating a sawmill, running a store and farm in Avoca Township, he found a few spare moments to study law in which he became proficient, as not one of his decisions during his fourteen years as justice of the peace was ever reversed when taken up on appeal. In 1844, he was appointed master in chancery by Judge T. Lyle Dickey, of Ottawa, and in 1859

was elected county judge. In 1858, Mr. McDowell formed a partnership with the Hon. Greenbury L. Fort, of Lacon, and engaged in the practice of his profession as occasion required. In 1860 he moved to Fairbury, thence to Washington, D. C., where he died several years ago.

Judge Billings P. Babcock settled in Esmen Township in 1848, and engaged in farming. He studied law in New York and was regularly admitted to practice in that state. Mr. Babcock devoted but little of his time to the practice of his profession in this county. In 1852 he was elected county judge, serving three years, resigning as he could not be absent from his office, when he so desired. He devoted the remaining portion of his life to farming, with the exception of the last few years, when he moved to Pontiac, at which place he passed away.

John H. McGregor was the first practicing attorney to locate at the county seat, arriving in 1852. He found but little work in his profession, and shortly after arriving engaged in the mercantile business with I. P. McDowell and Samuel C. Ladd. In a few years, Mr. McGregor retired from the firm, devoting all his time to the practice of his profession. He was a very able lawyer and his ability as such is highly spoken of by the people in the early days. He died in Pontiac in 1856.

Joel H. Dart, also a lawyer of ability, came from the state of Vermont in 1854. Shortly after his arrival he formed a partnership with John H. McGregor, which continued until the death of Mr. McGregor. In 1857, Mr. Dart returned to his native state, where he died the same year.

Richardson S. Hick, of New York state, located in Reading Township in 1852. Besides being a farmer, Mr. Hick engaged in the practice of law and had considerable business in the north-western portion of the county. He was elected justice of the peace and served one term in the House of Representatives, being elected in 1858. He took an active part in politics and was one of the leading orators of his day in the county. He moved to Kansas about the year 1865.

Orlando Chubbuck engaged in the practice of law at Long Point Township in the early '50s. He figured largely in the politics of the county during the period preceding the Civil War. Soon after coal was discovered at Streator he moved

to that village, where he died several years later.

Charles J. Beattie located in Pontiac in 1856 and a few years later entered into a partnership with Jerome P. Garner, practicing until about 1870, when he removed to Chicago.

Alfred E. Harding came from New York state and located at Pontiac in 1857. After his arrival, Mr. Harding took charge of the Livingston County News, which he edited until 1859, advocating the cause of Stephen A. Douglas, of whom he was an enthusiastic admirer. In the early days of Pontiac, Mr. Harding was a leader in the Democratic party, always taking an active part in politics. He was one of the leading lawyers of the county and has served the city of Pontiac as mayor and alderman. About ten years ago he received a stroke of paralysis and was compelled to retire from his chosen profession. A few years ago he published a book of his poems, which were well received by his old time admirers, one of them, "Outside the Gates," deserving special mention. At the age of 78, Mr. Harding is still a resident of Pontiac.

Jason W. Strevell located in Pontiac in 1855, coming from Albany, N. Y. Besides practicing law, Mr. Strevell engaged in merchandising, conducting the first exclusive hardware store in Pontiac. He was an able lawyer and was the leader in the early days of the Republican party in Livingston County. He was intimately acquainted with Abraham Lincoln and entertained him at his home in Pontiac after his lecture, which was delivered in January, 1860. In 1864, Mr. Strevell was elected to the lower house of the General Assembly, serving two years. In 1868, he was elected to the State Senate, being the youngest man in the body at that time. He was on the most important committees in that body and served the people with marked ability. He moved to Miles City, Montana, about thirty years ago, where he met with deserved success. Ten years ago he passed away and his remains were brought to Chicago for burial beside those of his daughter Nellie.

Jonathan Duff, one of the able advocates at the Livingston County bar, arrived in Pontiac in 1856 and engaged in the practice of law with Hon. A. E. Harding, who came one year later. Mr. Duff engaged in the real estate business in connection with his practice. He was postmaster at Pontiac during the Buchanan administration and was elected county judge in 1861.

In 1866 he engaged in the banking business with A. W. Cowan, and was instrumental in locating the first industry of any size in Pontiac in 1867—the Pontiac Woolen Mills. He was a leader in the Democratic party and was always at the head of everything which went to the upbuilding of the county. He passed away about twenty years ago.

John B. Perry arrived in Pontiac about 1860, from Bloomington. He was the youngest member of the bar at that time, being 21 years of age. In 1862, he enlisted and went to the field as captain of Company C, of the 129th Regiment. In the fall of 1864 he was obliged to resign and come home, resuming the practice of his profession. As soon as his health was restored, he returned to the army where he remained until the close of the war. After his return to Pontiac he became a member of the law firm of Collins, Perry & Payson, and at once took a leading position at the bar. Although the youngest member of the bar, Captain Perry was always considered the leading orator. He was distinguished most of all for his kindly disposition, great heart and persuasive eloquence. His popularity was great among all classes, but especially with those who had occasion to employ him in the line of his profession. With an entire freedom from egotism, so often the bane of talented public speakers, and a voice so pleasantly and musically modulated as to carry delight; with a grace of manner and an elegance of diction which we have seldom seen exceeded, he was the idol of his hearers on the forum or on the stump. So great was his popularity at that time, that whenever it was known that he was to sum up an important case in court, people would flock to the court house until it was crowded to its full capacity to hear him. And not in manner alone was he delightful. Often would the eloquence of his discourse rise to such brilliant strains as to eclipse, for a time, his incomparable style. Captain Perry died in Bloomington in October, 1869, aged 30 years.

Simeon DeWitt was another of the pioneer attorneys of Livingston County, arriving in Pontiac in 1854 from the state of Pennsylvania. Mr. DeWitt was an able lawyer. He built the first house on the south side of the river at the corner of South Mill and West Reynolds streets, where he died in 1860.

Joshua Whitmore came to Pontiac in 1858

from Ottawa and opened a law office. He was one of the leaders of the Republican party in Livingston County in 1860, and a lawyer of marked ability. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Company D, Twentieth Infantry, and was commissioned first lieutenant, resigning in one year on account of ill health. He came back to Pontiac to practice his profession but only remained a short time, moving to Ottawa, where he died in 1864.

Joseph F. Culver came to Pontiac in 1859 from the state of Pennsylvania, having studied law in his native state. On his arrival he entered the office of the county clerk as deputy, continuing his legal studies at the same time. During the campaign of 1860 he took a prominent part in the political affairs of the county, being a leader in the Democratic ranks. At the breaking out of the war he was made captain of Company A, 129th Regiment, and served throughout the rebellion. In 1865 he was elected county judge serving four years. April 28, 1866, he was admitted to the bar. In 1869 he engaged in the loan, real estate, insurance and banking business, continuing also in his profession. Mr. Culver was a leading member of the Methodist church and one of the best pulpit orators of his time in this county. He did more for Pontiac than any one man who has ever lived within the limits of the city in more ways than one. In his business dealings he was lax, and when the crash came in 1878, he was left penniless. But his friends stood by him, and he soon left for Kansas to recuperate his fortune. In this he was partially successful. He died there about twelve years ago. Draw the mantle of charity over his faults; forget, if you can, whatever you would not like to remember, but you cannot forget his kind, beaming face, the superlative grandeur of his eloquence, and his friendly love.

J. G. Strong was among the early practitioners of the Livingston bar, locating in Dwight. He represented this district in both branches of the Legislature, and in 1866 started the first bank in Dwight. Mr. Strong moved to South Dakota in 1879.

L. G. Pearre, Joseph I. Dunlop and R. S. McIlhuff were the leading lawyers of Dwight in the early days. Pearre and Dunlop are dead, the former being killed in a railroad wreck on the C. B. & Q. in 1884. Mr. McIlhuff moved to Pontiac in 1881, having been elected state's

attorney, serving four years, and at once took rank with the leaders at the bar, which position he still maintains.

Samuel T. Fosdick came to Livingston County in 1858, locating on a farm in Germanville Township where he remained until 1864, when he moved to Chatsworth and opened a law office. In 1876 he was elected senator from this district, the duties of which he performed in a faithful manner. Mr. Fosdick was a man of acknowledged ability and a leading citizen of the southeastern part of the county until the day of his death.

R. R. Wallace located in the village of Chatsworth in 1867. During the Civil War he was captain of a company from Ohio, his native state. In 1874 he moved to the county seat, having been elected county judge in 1873, a position he held for twenty-one consecutive years. He was nominated by the Democrats of this district for congressman, but was defeated by L. E. Payson. Mr. Wallace is still engaged in the practice of law in Pontiac.

George Torrance came to Chatsworth from Danville, Ill., being a native of Ohio, where he was born in 1847. In 1864 he enlisted with the 149th Illinois Volunteers and served until the close of the war. After coming to Chatsworth he served as justice of the peace and studied law in the office of Fosdick & Wallace, being admitted to the bar in 1875. He engaged in practice at Chatsworth until 1881, when he moved to Pontiac, becoming a member of the firm of McIlhuff & Torrance, and when that was dissolved he was alone for some years. Mr. Torrance was elected to the State Senate from this district in 1880 and served in that capacity for eight years. He would never accept criminal cases, but as a civil lawyer met with most excellent success in his chosen profession. In 1897 Mr. Torrance was appointed by Governor John R. Tanner superintendent of the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac, which position he held for four years, making a good executive officer. On his retirement from this position he started in Pontiac a weekly paper called the Commonwealth, which he published until his death in October, 1905. He also served as master in chancery for four years and was a member of the township high school board for six years, being president of the board for five years.

Samuel L. Fleming, one of the greatest legal

minds to practice the profession of law in Livingston County, arrived in Pontiac about 1860. Mr. Fleming was a successful lawyer, a brilliant orator, and several of the leading attorneys, who afterwards became members of the bar in this county, read law in Mr. Fleming's office, among whom were Judge N. J. Pillsbury and O. F. Pearre.

L. E. Payson came to Pontiac about the year 1864 from Iroquois County. He was then a young man of ability and formed a partnership with M. E. Collins and Captain John B. Perry. This firm at once became leaders at the bar, every member being noted for his ability in some particular line. Mr. Payson as a lawyer ranked high and his professional services were in demand all over the county. In 1869 he was elected county judge, serving one term. At the urgent request of his many admirers in Livingston County he became a candidate for Congress from this district in 1880. He secured the nomination and was elected in 1881, serving five terms, being the only congressman ever elected from this county since the date of its organization down to the present time. As a legislator in the halls of Congress, Mr. Payson at once gained prominence, and during his first term became a member of the committee on public lands. The next term he became chairman of that important committee and introduced several bills declaring forfeited thousands of acres of unearned grants all over the United States. In 1891 he was defeated for re-election by Herman W. Snow, and at once moved to Washington to practice his profession, where his ability was recognized, his services being in demand by the large corporations throughout the United States.

William T. Ament, one of the leading criminal lawyers of the state, came to Pontiac in 1860, from Ottawa, where he had previously practiced his profession. Like Captain John B. Perry, Mr. Ament was an orator, and several noted criminals in the early days of Pontiac were set free owing to his ability as a pleader before the jury. On one occasion he was employed by a lady as counsel in a breach of promise case, the damages being laid at \$10,000. The defendant was one of the leading citizens of the eastern part of the county, one of the first settlers, and a man held in high esteem by everyone who knew him. In summing up before the jury, Mr. Ament presented such a horrid picture of the man that many of his old neighbors, who were present at the trial,



Jes. A. Carter.

gathered at a school house the next evening for the purpose of mobbing the defendant and driving him from the country. Better counsel prevailed, however, and the mob was dispersed. The jury found for the plaintiff, but on taking the case up to the supreme court that body changed the whole situation by finding for the defendant. Mr. Ament died in Pontiac in 1897.

Since the retirement of the Hon. A. E. Harding and Judge N. J. Pillsbury from active practice, C. C. Strawn is the oldest living member of the Livingston County bar in point of service. Mr. Strawn is a native son of Illinois, being born at Ottawa in 1841, his father being one of the early settlers of La Salle County. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company I, 11th Illinois Volunteers and served three months. On his return he read law in Chicago and was admitted to the bar in 1863, practicing in Chicago and Omaha, and arrived in Pontiac in 1867. In 1870 he was appointed state's attorney for this judicial district by Governor Palmer and performed the duties in a creditable manner. Since coming to Pontiac, Mr. Strawn has always taken an active interest in political affairs and several times was nominated for office. As a civil and criminal lawyer, Mr. Strawn ranks high, as his connection with several of the most important cases ever tried in Livingston county will attest. For many years he has been attorney for the Chicago & Alton Railroad in this county, and is now actively engaged in practice with his son, Major Louis F., the firm name being Strawn & Strawn.

William B. Fyfe, a native of Scotland, came to Livingston County in 1856 and followed merchandising two years at New Michigan and then went to farming. In 1862 he moved to Pontiac and entered the law office of A. E. Harding. He was always a staunch Abolitionist, and while located at New Michigan was associated with Moses Rummary, Otis Richardson, Rev. H. H. Hinman and others in the early days of the anti-slavery movement, and kept one of the depots of the underground railroad. In 1862 he enlisted and went to the front with the 129th Regiment and remained until the close of the war. On his return he was appointed deputy county treasurer and county land commissioner, and in 1867 was elected county treasurer, serving two years, since which time he engaged in the practice of law until his removal from Pontiac about twenty years ago. Mr. Fyfe died in the state of Nebraska about ten years ago.

H. H. McDowell came to Livingston County with his mother and brothers in 1850, locating at Avoca. In 1860 he was engaged in teaching school in this county, and was in attendance at one of the first teachers' institutes held in this county. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the 17th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged by reason of ill health the following winter. He returned to Pontiac and six months later recruited and drilled a company of men which afterwards became a part of the 129th Regiment, became sergeant major of the regiment and afterward promoted to lieutenant, remaining with the regiment until the close of the war. On his return from the war he engaged in the hardware business in Fairbury, studying law at the same time. He was admitted to the bar in 1869, removed to Pontiac in 1872, and in 1888 was elected state's attorney, serving one term. He died at his home in Pontiac, August 13, 1908.

Alonzo P. Wright came to Odell in 1867 from the State of Maine. He served his village as clerk and attorney for several years, and had a large practice in the vicinity of Odell. Mr. Wright was an able attorney and now resides in Streator, Ill.

James H. Funk came to Odell in 1866 from Ohio. He engaged in farming, pursuing the study of law at the same time. In 1871 he was admitted to the bar and became a partner of Alonzo P. Wright. Mr. Funk was elected state's attorney in 1872, serving four years. He was a man of ability in the legal profession and a politician of note. About twenty-five years ago Mr. Funk removed to the State of Iowa where he became a power in politics, being elected a Representative in the General Assembly and Speaker of the House, a position he filled with honor to himself and the people. Mr. Funk is still engaged in the practice of the law in Iowa Falls, Iowa.

O. F. Pearre, teacher, writer, poet and lawyer, settled in Newtown Township in 1859, coming from the State of Ohio. He engaged in teaching in this county and in 1860 took charge of the New Michigan Academy as principal, remaining two years. He next spent two years as principal of the public schools of Dwight and in 1865 was elected county school commissioner, serving in that capacity for two years, in the meantime reading law with Samuel L. Fleming of Pontiac. Mr. Pearre was admitted to the bar in 1866 and at once engaged in practicing, making a specialty of

collections. For ten years, from 1865 until 1875, he was engaged as local editor for either the Pontiac Sentinel or Free Trader. As a local editor, Mr. Pearre never had an equal in Livingston County from the date of the first publication down to the present time, but as a poet he will be remembered longer, perhaps, than any citizen of the county who lived during his time. No gathering of the old settlers, the old soldiers or, in fact, any meeting of importance, was considered complete without his presence on the program with a poem. Competent critics pronounced many of his poems classics, and he was urged time and again by prominent publishers of the state to compile and publish a complete volume of his writings; but this was impossible, for the most part the files of papers in which they were published, as well as the manuscript, being destroyed. Fifty years ago, while engaged in teaching in this county, he made a tour of the adjoining counties, delivering lectures and was everywhere greeted with good audiences, who were delightfully entertained by his droll philosophy and the recitation of his poems. Mr. Pearre died at Pontiac in 1897.

James T. Terry located in Pontiac in 1869, being a native of the State of New York. Mr. Terry is a man of ability and at once secured a good clientage. He was elected mayor of Pontiac in 1885, serving two terms, and again in 1895, serving one term. During his last term as mayor the first paving in Pontiac was laid, Mr. Terry being heartily in favor of the improvement. As an executive officer of the city he discharged his duties faithfully and to the satisfaction of the citizens. Mr. Terry is still engaged in the practice of law in Pontiac.

J. M. C. Lisenby was one of the early attorneys of Fairbury, locating there in 1862. As a lawyer, he possessed naturally the best legal mind of any man who practiced that profession in that city. Before going to Fairbury he was a prominent member of the legislature of Kentucky, and was honored by a position on the governor's staff. He was found dead on the sidewalk in front of the Arcade block in that city on the morning of August 11, 1871.

George E. Ford was one of the prominent attorneys of Fairbury during the '60s. In 1870 he suffered the penalty of the supreme court in having his name stricken from the roll of honorable attorneys of the state.

Among the early practitioners at the Liv-

ingston County bar were E. B. Neville, E. M. Johnson, John Campbell, S. S. Lawrence, M. S. Robinson, James W. Remick, Martin I. Brower, R. B. Harrington, John R. Wolgamott, M. E. Collins and Smith M. Garrett of Pontiac, and Joseph Hamer, Elijah Plank, Jackson B. Young, Thomas Black, Charles Fanning, Romeo T. Perry and David L. Murdock of Fairbury.

Of some of these mentioned but little is known as they were engaged in practice but a short time in the county, while others moved away and have been entirely lost sight of.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY JUDGES.

From the time of its organization down to the present time Livingston County has had but two representatives on the circuit bench—Judge Nathaniel J. Pillsbury and Judge George W. Patton.

Judge Pillsbury was born in York County, Maine, in 1834, received a good common school education, taught school and in 1856 moved to Illinois, locating in Bureau County. In 1857 he came to Livingston County, purchasing a farm in Nebraska Township, where he operated until 1863. Moving to Pontiac he entered the law office of Samuel L. Fleming and was soon admitted to the bar. He formed a partnership with Mr. Fleming and in a short time had acquired a lucrative practice and excellent reputation as a sound and honest lawyer. In 1869 he was elected a member of the constitutional convention, which met the following year, and in 1873 was elected judge of the thirteenth judicial circuit, then composed of Livingston, Kankakee and Iroquois counties. Four years later the circuit was enlarged by adding McLean and Ford counties and became the Eleventh. He was re-elected in 1879 and again in 1885, serving in all, eighteen years to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He was also one of the first judges of the appellate court, being on that bench ten and a half years from 1877, and an undeniable proof of his popularity was found in his re-election. He wrote many opinions that are to be found in the first sixteen volumes of the appellate court reports of the state of Illinois. In 1891 Judge Pillsbury was urged to become a candidate for a fourth term by the bar and people generally, but on account of injuries received in 1882, while returning to Pontiac from Chicago, he declined. The judge was a passenger on a Chicago & Alton train leaving Chicago. On board were a few non-union men, and when the



Jeannie B. Carter.

train reached Bridgeport it was fired into by union men, the judge receiving a painful wound from which he has never recovered. On his retirement from the bench the bar, together with the citizens of Pontiac, tendered him a banquet at the Odd Fellows' hall. During the evening the following poem was read by a fellow member of the bar, O. F. Pearre:

Most noble Judge, and dear old friend,
And neighbor, tried and true,
We meet this evening to extend
Our best respects to you;
To you who never thought to swerve
From the plain path of right;
So, Judge, take what you will deserve,
"Hands with our hearts" tonight.

You knew no party, clique or clan,
But kept the balance true,
With equal rights for every man—
So, Judge, we honor you.
May honor, health and wealth attend
Your footsteps day by day;
May heaven all its blessings send
To cheer you on your way.

But if, sometimes, like all mankind,
You're feeling melancholy,
Then take a rest and fix your mind
On Barrickman and Holly;
On Norton, and on Brown and Ball,
Who sure renown are winning,
And then your memory will recall
The days of your beginning.

And as your willing fancy plays,
Soon, soon you will be merry
In happy thoughts of other days,
With Harding, Strawn and Terry;
With Wallace, Payson and Ament,
When life was all before us,
Hope sang a song as on we went,
And we joined in the chorus.

Torrance and Woodrow, McIluff—
They all are here to meet you;
And Johnson, he will print a "puff"
About the way we greet you.
And if you want to hear a speech,
One which you can grow fat on,
(That thing is far beyond my reach),
Call on McDowell or Patton.

But if you wish to hear a tale,
Both witty, wise and savory,
Just press the point till you prevail
And hear from Brother Avery.
But I, with Cowan, will sit down—
I speak for self and Gus—
We both are very modest men,
And never make a fuss.

But, Judge, if we should really try,
You know not what we'd do;
Our fancy, it would soar so high,
We would astonish you.
So we, in silence, will sit down—
I speak of self and Gus—
Men of such eminent renown
Need never make a fuss.

For eighteen years, all spotless white
The ermine you have kept,
You've always dared to do the right,
Suspicion never crept
Into your mind that you could swerve
From the plain path of right;
So, Judge, take what you will deserve,
"Hearts with our hands," tonight.

Judge George W. Patton is a native of Pennsylvania, and during his infancy was brought to Woodford County by his parents in 1851. Reared on the home farm in Woodford County, Judge Patton attended the common schools of the neighborhood until twenty years of age, and then took a three years' course at Normal, Ill., completing the same in 1871. During the following two years he taught school in Secor and El Paso, Woodford County, and with the money thus earned he commenced the study of law with Hay, Green & Little at Springfield, Ill., and was admitted to the bar in 1875. Subsequently he again taught school and engaged in other pursuits until 1881, following farming for three years, to regain his health. In 1881 he commenced the practice of law in Fairbury and two years later located in Pontiac, where he formed a partnership with C. C. Strawn, which was dissolved in 1888. After that he was alone and succeeded in building up a large and lucrative practice. In 1897 he was elected one of the judges of the Eleventh judicial district and re-elected in 1903, and is now most creditably filling that office. In 1907 Judge Patton was honored by his home county in receiving the unanimous endorsement of the Republicans as their candidate for judge of the supreme court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Wilkin.

CHAPTER XIII.

MEDICAL PROFESSION.

PIONEER PHYSICIANS AND THEIR HARDSHIPS—
EARLY NURSES AND REMEDIES—DR. JOHN DAVIS
THE FIRST PHYSICIAN—LONG LIST OF FOLLOWERS,
WITH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES—COMING OF THE HOMEOPATHIST IN 1865—DENTISTS
IN PONTIAC.

The Livingston County medical pioneer of fifty or more years ago did not have the smooth sailing enjoyed by their more fortunate followers who came later, after the rough corners of border life had been rounded off and some of the comforts of civilization established in their place. The early settlers of Livingston County were remote from each other, frequently twenty

or thirty miles, and always in the edge of the timber, consequently the pioneer life was a lonely one, as well as one of danger and frequently of great suffering. There were no bridges, and during the spring the doctors were compelled to ford the swollen streams with great danger to their lives. The roads connecting the settlements were very indifferent; in fact, were trails, and remained so up to a very late date. It was impossible to travel in a direct line over the prairie from one settlement to another on account of the numerous impassable sloughs and boggy places, making it necessary, at times, to travel a mile out of the way in order to head one of these sloughs and cross over on the long grass and weeds. One great difficulty the pioneer doctor had to contend with in traveling over the prairie was the absence of landmarks—so much sameness. Then, again, at certain times, great districts in the neighborhood of sloughs were enshrouded in dense fog, making it impossible to locate one's self, especially at night. Every pioneer medical man has had more or less of this experience. They became lost and wandered around until daylight, and frequently were obliged to alight and feel for the roads, especially when riding a strange horse, as they would invariably take to the grass when given the reins. The doctor's usual mode of travel in those days was on horseback with saddle bags strapped on behind the saddle.

Our pioneer women were especially gifted in the care of the sick, and some of the remedies used in the early days have been handed down from mother to daughter, and are still declared to be efficacious even in the most severe cases of sickness. A system which was depended entirely upon was sweating and the use of native herbs, especially lobelia, elder bark, thyme, madder, comfrey, elecampane, catnip, hoarhound, slippery elm, burdock, sassafras and various other nauseous plants which were to be found in the timber along the banks of the Vermillion.

Of Dr. John Davis, who was the first physician in the county, but little else is known except that he came to Pontiac township about the year 1833, and settled just east of the city on what is now known as the Rollins' farm.

Dr. Cornelius W. Reynolds was the first physician who was an actual resident of the village. He had settled in Amity Township in 1836, but in 1837 came to Pontiac, where he resided about four years.

Dr. James S. Munson settled in Pontiac about 1837, being appointed clerk of the commissioners' court in 1838 in place of M. I. Ross. How long Dr. Munson resided in Pontiac is not known, all record of him being lost.

A physician by the name of Dr. Holland resided in Rooks Creek, coming there about 1845. His practice extended to Pontiac and during the cholera season of 1849 he was called there to attend several cases, was stricken with the disease and died the day following.

Dr. John B. Hulsey and Dr. C. B. Ostrander came to Pontiac about 1850, and were soon followed by Drs. John M. Perry, Darius Johnson, John W. Youmans, Thomas Crowell and G. J. Sweet. Dr. Hulsey remained in Pontiac until Fairbury was laid out and the settlement started, being the second physician to locate in that village. After residing in Fairbury for ten years, Dr. Hulsey removed to the state of Oregon, where he died. Dr. Ostrander remained in Pontiac two years, moving to Avoca, where his practice extended to the extreme south end of the county for many years after. The doctor was also engaged in farming, more or less, and retired in 1885, moving to Fairbury, where he died in 1905. The doctor was always noted as being a good story-teller, was a good physician with a wonderful memory, and, in his day, was acquainted with every one in the county.

Dr. John M. Perry located in Pontiac about 1852, remaining here until his death, which occurred twenty years later. Dr. Perry was an ideal citizen and a splendid physician, and enjoyed a large practice. He was a thoroughly Christian gentleman and one of the organizers of the Christian church in Pontiac.

Dr. John Youmans located in Pontiac soon after Dr. Perry. In after years the doctor became a leader in the Democratic party, and met with success in his profession. He was appointed postmaster by President Johnson in 1866 and shortly afterwards left for California, where he died about ten years ago.

Dr. Darius Johnson settled in Pontiac in 1853, coming from New York, and practiced his profession for twenty-four years, passing away in 1877. During his practice here in the early days he became acquainted with nearly all the first settlers of the county and was widely known. From the day he settled in Pontiac until his death, he was always engaged more or less in politics, merely for the love of excite-



JAMES H. CARTER



MRS. JAMES H. CARTER



WILLIAM NIMMO



MRS. WILLIAM NIMMO

ment which arose from it, and was never a seeker after office. He always kept himself thoroughly posted in his profession, being a graduate of four of the leading medical schools in the United States, besides serving three years in the civil war as surgeon of the 129th Regiment. He always took a leading part in the schools of Pontiac and for many years was a member of the board of trustees. He was appointed by Governor Beveridge as trustee of the Illinois State University at Champaign in place of R. B. Harrington, who removed from the county, and was coroner of Livingston County when he died.

Dr. Eben Norton was the first physician to locate in New Michigan, arriving in 1854, remaining there until 1871, when he moved to Cornell, being the first physician to locate in that village. At Cornell he opened the first drug store and continued in business there until his death. Dr. Norton was one of the first board of supervisors sent from Newtown, serving three terms, and was also a member of the board from Amity Township five terms.

Dr. Thomas Croswell located in Pontiac in 1855, coming from the state of Maine. The doctor was the pioneer druggist of Pontiac and a learned physician. He always took an active interest in the political affairs of the county and served several terms as coroner. He was a progressive business man and his store was always stocked with everything up to date. In 1859 he introduced the first soda fountain in Livingston County and in 1860 brought to the county the first coal oil lamp. At that time these two inventions were just coming on the market, and from newspaper accounts at that time of their appearance in Pontiac one would judge that they were the greatest inventions of the age. Dr. Croswell continued in business in Pontiac until about thirty-five years ago, when he moved to Streator, where he died October 6, 1908.

Dr. Sheldon also came in 1855. He formed a partnership with Dr. Johnson, but only remained in Pontiac for a short time, returning to his home in the East.

Dr. S. S. Cowan, a botanic physician, located in Pontiac in 1857, remaining but a short time, former home in the East.

Dr. E. W. Capron located in Pontiac in 1860, coming from the state of New York. He was a fine physician and surgeon, and was instrumental

in organizing in Pontiac the first county medical society, in 1868. Dr. Capron was made secretary of the society. At the second meeting of the society, a motion carried to the effect that no physician would be entitled to membership who was not a regular graduate of a school of medicine. This motion excluded the president and several of the most prominent members, and the meeting adjourned to meet no more. Dr. Capron is now living in retirement in New York.

Drs. D. S. Stewart and G. J. Sweet located in Pontiac in 1857. They became partners, but Dr. Stewart soon became discouraged with the country and located elsewhere. Dr. Sweet continued in practice until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the navy as surgeon and was killed by the bursting of a shell in Mobile bay.

Dr. J. Hill was the first physician to locate at Ancona, arriving there about 1853. He was soon followed by Dr. Edward Evans, who became quite prominent. Soon after Dr. Evans' arrival, he opened the first drug store in that village.

Dr. James H. Hagerty was the first physician to locate in Dwight, arriving there shortly after the town was laid out. Dr. Hagerty was a man of progress and one of the leading politicians of the north end of the county. He took a deep interest in educational affairs and in 1857 was elected school commissioner of the county on the democratic ticket. He erected the first brick building in Dwight. Dr. Hagerty died in 1873.

Dr. C. D. Chalfant was another pioneer physician of Dwight and was a very able man. He now lives in retirement at Streator, and is still consulted by many of the leading physicians of that city.

Dr. M. K. Wright located in Pontiac during the war and secured a lucrative practice. He was a splendid physician and a highly educated man, but in later years his mind became unbalanced and he was sent to an asylum. He was returned to Pontiac as cured, but in a few years the malady returned and the doctor was taken to the poor farm, where he died about ten years ago.

Dr. J. J. Stites came to Pontiac in 1864 and at once began the practice of his profession, which he continued with success until about fifteen years ago, when he retired. Dr. Stiles has been health commissioner of Pontiac ever since the

board was organized and has always taken an active interest in his work.

Dr. Samuel Stewart also located in Pontiac during the war. He was a man of many sterling qualities of head and heart and a fine physician. Dr. Stewart had many friends throughout the county and his professional services were always in demand. He died in Pontiac about fifteen years ago.

Dr. Orlando S. Wood commenced the practice of medicine in Pontiac in 1865. Before he graduated, Dr. Wood was a resident of Pontiac, but in a few days after the first call for troops in 1861, he left for St. Louis and enlisted in Bolton's battery. After the fall of Vicksburg he graduated from Rush Medical College and at once re-enlisted, becoming assistant surgeon of the 129th Regiment and later surgeon. Dr. Wood died in 1868, aged 31 years.

Dr. John W. Filkins located in Pontiac about 1865. He was a very progressive man and did much toward the upbuilding of the city. He was a good physician and secured a fine practice. About twenty-five years ago he moved to the state of Washington and engaged in the real estate business, where he still resides.

Dr. Sabin P. Kimball, a graduate of Casselton (Vt.) Medical College, was the first physician to locate in Fairbury, arriving in 1858. He followed his profession for twelve years, and afterward engaged in the drug business. The following year, Dr. J. B. Hulsey located in the village, followed by the Wright brothers, Drs. J. J. and H. B. They opened up the first drug store in the village. In 1870, Dr. J. J. Wright was elected coroner of this county. Then came Dr. James F. Fraley from Indiana. Dr. Fraley was a very popular physician, his specialty being diseases of children. For several terms he served as president of the village board and was always counted among the progressive citizens of his time. He was also a member of the board of supervisors several terms. Dr. N. T. P. Robertson was also one of the pioneer medical men of Fairbury. His reputation as a surgeon extended from one end of the county to the other, and his practice was large. Among other physicians to locate in Fairbury in the '60s were Drs. Love, Thurber, Loar and Fulton, all of whom have since moved to other states.

Dr. John B. Baker, was the second physician

to locate in Dwight, arriving in 1865. Dr. Baker had just been mustered out of the service of his country, having spent about four years as captain of Company B, Third Illinois Cavalry. He opened a well appointed drug store in the village and continued in practice there until about 1878, when he removed to Pontiac. In 1891, when the State Reform School, located at Pontiac, was changed into a reformatory, Dr. Baker was appointed the first physician of the institution, remaining in charge for six and one-half years, when he was let out to make room for a Republican. Dr. Baker is now living in retirement in Pontiac.

Dr. Leslie E. Keeley located in Dwight in 1866, having just graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago. He soon won an enviable reputation and a large practice. In 1880, Dr. Keeley abandoned general practice and began giving his entire attention to the cure of those who had become slaves to alcohol, opium and other injurious drugs. He associated with him Major Curtis Judd and John R. Oughton, and the connection was maintained until the doctor's death. Drs. Heath and Thole were also early physicians of Dwight.

Dr. Walden was the first physician to locate in Odell, arriving soon after the town was laid out in 1855. Dr. T. O. Bannister, after serving three years as physician and surgeon, located there in 1865, and still continues in the practice of his profession.

Dr. Peter Eppler located in Cayuga in 1867. The doctor opened a drug store and commenced practicing his profession, from which he has since retired, now living in retirement near Cayuga.

Dr. D. W. Hunt was the first physician to locate in Chatsworth, arriving in 1861. During the civil war he was engaged as hospital surgeon stationed at Mound City, Ill. Dr. William C. Byington, another army physician and surgeon, located in Chatsworth in 1868. Both are now dead.

Dr. Daniel Duckett was the first physician to locate in Forrest, arriving in 1867, soon after the town was laid out. Dr. Duckett also opened the first drug store in the village, and was successful both in professional and business life.

Previous to 1865, there is no record of any



LUCIUS S. CARTER

homeopathic physician and surgeon locating in Livingston County. All were of the allopathic or eclectic schools. About this time, a young man arrived in Pontiac who had just graduated from a homeopathic school, opened an office and commenced practicing. He met with poor success and moved away. From this time on down to 1878, many other young men of that school located in Pontiac, but with the same result. In 1878, Dr. Charles H. Long, a homeopathic physician and surgeon, came to Pontiac and opened an office. At first, Dr. Long met with poor success as far as building up a practice was concerned, but success finally crowned his efforts and it was not long before his ability, both as a physician and surgeon, were recognized. Dr. Long is still a resident of Pontiac, although retired from the active practice of his profession.

Dr. Joel Allen located in Nebraska Township soon after the close of the war and began to practice medicine. Dr. Allen met with success and afterwards moved to Pontiac, where he is now living in retirement at the age of 81.

Every school of medicine known to the professional world has had at one time or another a representative in Livingston County. John Alexander Dowle gained many converts here, while Christian Science healers have been numerous, more especially in Indian Grove Township, where they have a very nice church, which is well attended. Magnetic healers and osteopaths are also represented, and it has been a favorite resort for visiting specialists. If Livingston County has not been healthy, it has not been from a lack of a multitude of counselors.

DENTISTS.

The first dentist to locate in the county was O. Easton, who settled in Pontiac in 1857. Dr. Easton secured room for his chair in the front of Dr. Thomas Crosswell's drug store, but soon his business increased and he was compelled to look for better and more congenial quarters. Soon after Dr. Easton arrived, came Dr. H. Sweet, who had an office with his brother, Dr. G. J. Sweet, over John Dehner's store. Then came Dr. H. H. Townsend and Dr. Matthews. There are about ten in Pontiac now, with probably as many more in the rest of the county.

CHAPTER XIV.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY PRESS.

EARLY NEWSPAPERS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY—METHODS OF JOURNALISM FIFTY YEARS AGO—VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES (KING EDWARD VII.) IN 1860—INDIVIDUAL LIST OF EARLY PAPERS—NAMES OF FOUNDERS AND PLACES OF PUBLICATION—PAPERS OF THE PRESENT DAY.

Livingston County has cause to be proud of this part of its history. The county press numbers twenty-one newspapers, nearly every village having one and some three. They give particular attention to local news, many of them having no editorial. "Patent insides" furnish readable general matter, usually including a sermon or Sunday school lesson. Nearly all are neutral in politics and non-sectarian in religion. They are neat, clean and enterprising in their sphere, a credit to their publishers and to their patrons who sustain them. The newspaper published in an early day contained little or no local news, now so great an item in all modern newspapers. Important events occurring fifty years ago were treated with the greatest indifference. When the Prince of Wales passed through Pontiac in 1860, the Sentinel mentioned the fact in a five-line local item. A few months later, Abraham Lincoln lectured in Pontiac, and the notice of his being here and a write-up of his lecture did not exceed one quarter of a column. Today, either of these events would be good for nearly a page of the local press. Fights and drunken brawls or a good joke on some prominent citizen would be treated at length, which to-day is considered by the press as not worth mentioning. The papers then were made up for the most part of miscellaneous reading matter, editorials and lengthy communications on political and religious subjects, but never contained what the people of this day and age want—local news. It was far easier then to start a newspaper than at the present time. A few cases of type, a bundle of paper, a Washington hand press and a "devil," was all that was required.

The first newspaper published in Livingston County was in 1853, by the Rev. Thomas Cotton, a Methodist minister. The name of the publica-

tion was the Vermilion Herald and was published at New Michigan in Newtown township. Mr. Cotton was a great writer, and the paper started off with a good list of subscribers, but as for finances he had none, and after careful consideration of the profits of the concern, he came to the wise conclusion that he could not swing it, and the second number never appeared.

The second newspaper published in the county made its appearance in Pontiac on March 14, 1855, and was called the Livingston County News. J. S. France, a lawyer from Ottawa, was editor and proprietor. It was independent in politics, but Mr. France lacked the necessary capital to keep the paper afloat, and after a hard struggle of less than three months, the publication of the News was abandoned.

But the people of the county at that time wanted a newspaper, and a few months later, M. A. Renoe and Philip Cook, two first-class newspaper men, arrived in town. They had but little capital, but were given encouragement by the business men and at once resurrected the News. They continued the publication of the paper until the fall of 1857, when Cook withdrew to engage with William Gagan in the publication of the Sentinel. Mr. Renoe continued with the News until it was sold to James G. Allbe, a printer from Bloomington. A. E. Harding was made editor of the News, and continued as such for about two years, when he retired to give his whole attention to the law. Frank Streamer was made editor, and as the paper was strongly Democratic and against the prosecution of the war, then so strongly favored by the people of this county, the paper was given little or no support and its publication was abandoned.

On the 9th of October, 1857, the first issue of the Sentinel appeared under the management of Cook and Gagan. The paper was owned by a stock company, composed entirely of the leading Republicans of the county, and was a success from the start. They continued the paper until 1860, when Mr. Cook was elected county treasurer, and Michael E. Collins was installed as editor. Collins was two years later elected county treasurer and the Sentinel was then sold outright by the stockholders to Henry S. Decker, a printer from Chicago, and James Stout. In 1866, Frank Denslow purchased a half interest, remaining with the paper about one year, when James Stout secured full control. In 1867, Henry C. Jones and M. A. Renoe commenced the

publication of the Free Press in opposition to the Sentinel. In 1869 they purchased the Sentinel from Mr. Stout, and merged the two papers into one, calling it the Sentinel and Press. A short time after the latter part of the name was dropped and the old name Sentinel was retained, and by that name it has been known ever since. In 1875 Fred L. Alles of Belleville, Ill., bought the paper and ran it with success until 1884, when, on account of failing health, he sold out to Messrs. Lowry and Clark of Gibson City, and moved to California. H. J. Clark became editor and manager, Mr. Lowry remaining in Gibson City, where he was engaged in the publication of the Courier. In 1897 the Sentinel was sold to Charles R. Truitt, who continued its publication until 1903, when the paper was sold to a syndicate. In the meantime, the plant of the Pontiac Daily News had been purchased by the syndicate and the Sentinel was issued as a daily. During this time, M. F. Bovard, R. M. John and C. C. Strawn had editorial charge of the paper. In March, 1907, the syndicate sold out the paper to a stock company headed by Dustin & Holbrook, of the Dwight Star and Herald, who are now in charge.

Quite a number of papers were founded to compete with the Sentinel, but none were successful until the Free Trader was established by Charles A. McGregor and E. M. Johnson in 1871. Among these were the Constitution in 1864, published by E. B. Buck, as a Democratic paper to support McClellan and Pendleton; the Pontiac Republican started in October, 1865, by T. B. Harper; the National Union, a Democratic paper published by Dr. J. W. Youmans in 1866; the Democrat by Milton & Organ in 1868; the Weekly Monitor, a temperance paper, published by T. B. Harper; the People's Advocate, a prohibition paper, by Thomas Wing in 1870; the Pontiac Herald in 1871, by John H. Hewitt; Ford's Livingston County Democrat in 1878; the Pontiac Gazette by C. M. Cyrus in 1880; the Pontiac Observer in 1881 by M. A. Renoe; the Pontiac Daily and Weekly News in 1901 by E. P. Holly; the Commonwealth in 1902 by S. W. Strong and George W. Torrance, the latter being discontinued in 1905 on account of Mr. Torrance's death.

In 1870, the Free Trader was established with A. L. Bagby as editor. It was a Democratic paper, and under the management of Bagby it was a failure, and in October, 1871,



MRS. LUCIUS S. CARTER

Messrs. Johnson & McGregor took charge. Under their able management, the paper went to the front and soon circulated all over the county. McGregor sold out to M. A. Renoe, who continued with Mr. Johnson until 1877, when he sold his interest to John Stuff, who retired in a few years, leaving Mr. Johnson in full control until 1883, when the paper was consolidated with the Observer, a Democratic paper published by Mr. Renoe for about a year. Johnson & Renoe continued the publication of the paper until 1907, when it was sold to Charles R. Bruer, who is now in charge.

The first daily paper to be issued in Pontiac made its appearance in 1896, and was published by J. S. Saul and B. L. Stinson. The paper was not a success financially and in a short time was sold to Clarence B. Hurtt. Mr. Hurtt was a young man of ability along newspaper lines and soon had the paper established on a sound footing. Having large financial interests in Idaho, he soon sold the paper to B. F. Shankland of Fairbury, who in 1901 sold the plant to H. J. Clark, formerly publisher of the Sentinel. Mr. Clark later disposed of a part interest to L. Victor Pearre, who at once assumed charge of the mechanical department, and these gentlemen are now publishing the paper, meeting with success. It is Republican in politics. The Weekly Leader was first issued in 1883.

FAIRBURY.—The first paper published here was the Intelligencer, which made its appearance in 1863, its editor being John Harper. The Journal was published in 1866 by H. S. Decker, who sold it to Isaac P. McDowell, and he to Otis Eastman in 1867, who continued to publish it until 1873. In April, 1871, O. J. & L. W. Dimmick commenced the publication of the Independent, and in 1876 the Blade was started by C. B. Holmes. These papers were consolidated on January 12, 1877, when John S. Seibird became the proprietor. Later the name Independent was dropped, and C. E. Carter purchased the paper and continued as its editor until 1889, when he sold it to Thomas E. DuBois. Since then the publishers have been D. A. Fraley, B. F. Shankland, and the present proprietors, Fulton & Sutton. It is a Republican paper. The News was started by Baker Bros., in 1886, but the plant was destroyed by fire in 1887. The Local Record (Democratic) was started by C. E. Carter in 1889, and a year or so later it was sold to E. W. Wilson. The paper then passed

into the hands of C. S. Brydia, who continued its publication until 1907, when he sold it to M. A. Anderson. The Livingston County Democrat made its first appearance May 5, 1908, published by Fred F. Brydia. It was continued until July, when the subscription list was sold to the Pontiac Free Trader and Observer.

DWIGHT.—In June, 1868, Smith & Rutan began the publication of the Weekly Courier, which after six months was discontinued. May 5, 1868, Charles L. Palmer commenced the Star at Dwight. The paper when first published was a small affair, but Mr. Palmer was a thorough newspaper man and soon enlarged his paper, and it was well supported. For a short time, his brother was a partner in the paper. After publishing the Star for twenty years, Palmer sold out to C. A. Stuck, who changed the name of the paper to the North Star. In 1889, L. D. Plummer began the publication of the Dwight Herald and by request of Palmer changed the name of the paper to the Dwight Star and Herald. In 1890, W. G. Dustin started the Daily Messenger as a campaign paper, and after the campaign was over the publication ceased. In 1890 the Star and Herald was purchased by A. R. Zimmerman, and in 1891 W. G. Dustin purchased a half interest. October 10, 1891, both the Star and Herald and North Star plants were destroyed by fire, and in 1892 Stuck moved the North Star to Odell. In 1893 J. F. Wassell purchased Zimmerman's interest in the Star and Herald, and continued with Dustin for about one year, when Dustin secured entire control, and continued until twelve years later, when he disposed of a half interest to A. S. Holbrook, the firm now being Dustin & Holbrook. In 1904, W. H. Ketcham began the publication of the Dwight Sun as an Independent paper, but later changed it to Democratic.

CHATSWORTH.—In 1873 Dimmick Bros. of Fairbury commenced the publication of the Palladium at Chatsworth, which they sold to George Torrance, he to C. B. Holmes in 1874. The paper was afterwards changed to The Plaindealer by R. M. Spurgeon, who sold the plant to James A. Smith in 1880, who still continues the publication. The Chatsworth Times was first issued in 1902 by the Chatsworth Printing Company, composed of the following named gentlemen: Stephen Herr, A. F. Walter, George J. Walter, J. Q. Puffer, Dr. G. T. Carson and Marion Roberts. The Times is Independent in politics.

CORNELL.—A. E. Tiffany issued the first number of the Cornell Journal in 1890 and is still at the head of the paper. The Journal is Independent in politics.

CULLOM.—The Chronicle was started in 1898. S. J. Porterfield is now sole editor and proprietor. The Chronicle is Republican in politics.

SAUNEMIN.—The Saunemin Gazette was first issued in 1888 by C. S. Brydia of Fairbury, who disposed of his plant to M. A. Anderson in 1907. The paper is issued from the Local Record office in Fairbury. The Saunemin Headlight was established in 1904 by Miss C. M. Mahood. The plant was sold to S. J. Porterfield of the Cullom Chronicle in 1908, and the Headlight is now issued from Cullom.

CAMPUS AND CARDIFF.—These towns are supplied with weekly editions of the Journal from the office of the Dwight Star and Herald.

EMINGTON.—The Joker was first issued by the Schultz Bros. in 1903, who still continue the publication. The Joker is Independent in politics.

FLANAGAN.—The Home Times was first issued in 1885 by J. M. Breen, later by W. W. Kenny, now County Clerk of Livingston County, who sold the paper to W. E. Galvin, the present proprietor.

FORREST.—The Rambler was established in 1883, since which time several newspaper men have had charge of the plant. Louis Wingate is now editor and proprietor. The Rambler is Republican in politics.

ODELL.—Since J. H. Warner's first issue of the Independent in 1869, Odell has witnessed the rise and fall of several newspaper publications. The present publication is the Gazette and Reporter, of which C. A. Stuck is the publisher.

LONG POINT.—The Advocate was established in 1883 at Ancona by G. W. Mathis. In 1904, the plant was moved to Long Point, where the paper is now issued. W. E. Goldsmith is the present publisher. The Advocate is Independent in politics.

CHAPTER XV.

CHURCH HISTORY.

EARLY CIRCUIT RIDERS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—
REV. JESSE WALKER, THE PIONEER METHODIST,

FOUND AN INDIAN MISSION IN 1826—OTHER WORKERS OF A LATER DATE—HISTORY OF CATHOLIC PARISH OF ODELL—PONTIAC METHODIST CHURCH—THE PART OF ITS MEMBERS IN THE CIVIL WAR—CHURCH BUILDINGS—PONTIAC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOUNDED IN 1854—COLORED CHURCHES OF PONTIAC—EARLY SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Rev. Jesse Walker, the pioneer of all Methodist preachers, left St. Clair County in 1824, and first located at Peoria. The following year he took up his abode at Ottawa. In the spring of 1826, he established a mission among the Pottawatomie Indians at what is now called Mission Point, in La Salle County. He labored faithfully there, preaching to the Indians and keeping a school for some thirty-five Indian children. He preached the Gospel to the Kickapoo Indians in Livingston County before a white man had entered its borders (See Indian history.) In 1832, he was appointed to the Chicago Station. Doubtless in his great circuit from Chicago to Peoria and east to the state line, he preached the first sermons in Livingston County at the log cabins of Rook or Darnall or McDowell. He remained two years in Chicago, when he retired to a small farm twelve miles west of Chicago, where he died October 5, 1835, and was buried near Plainfield, Will County. The Methodist conference held at Plainfield in July, 1850, appointed a committee of their body, who removed his remains to the cemetery at Plainfield, and erected a monument to his memory.

The first Illinois conference appointment to this region was in 1833, when Rev. William Royal was sent to the Ottawa Mission. In the Chicago district. This mission reached from the Illinois river east to the state line, and from Ottawa to the Mackinaw in McLean County, and included Livingston County. He made the circuit every four weeks. He organized the first Methodist society in this county in Widow McDowell's log cabin in Avoca Township in the fall of 1834, although Rev. James Eckles had preached the first sermon there in the spring of 1833.

Rev. Royal was followed by Rev. Leander J. Walker in 1835, Rev. Harvey Hadley in 1836, Rev. R. F. Moffett in 1837, Rev. A. F. Rogers in 1838, Rev. Henry Menard in 1842, Rev. John A. Battenham in 1843, Rev. S. B. Smith in 1844, Rev. B. W. Fidler in 1846, Rev.



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, ODELL



INTERIOR, ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, ODELL

T. F. Royal in 1847, Rev. Mr. Gorbett in 1848, Rev. Mr. Beedle in 1849.

In 1850, Avoca circuit was formed to include all the preaching places in Livingston County, and appears first in the minutes of that year for the Rock River conference. Rev. William C. Royal was appointed as circuit rider. In 1851, Rev. B. W. Fidler was appointed to the circuit. In 1852-53, Rev. George C. Holmes was on the Avoca circuit, and doubtless preached every four or six weeks, although no record remains other than the name in the conference minutes.

Rev. George W. Murphy was appointed in 1854 and Rev. Jacob Matthews in 1855. The central Illinois, or as it was then called for four years, the Peoria conference, was organized September 6, 1856, from the southern part of the Rock River conference, and Rev. Thomas Watson was appointed to the Avoca circuit under Presiding Elder Zadoc Hall, and also preached at Pontiac. At the conference in 1857, Rev. W. J. Stubbles was appointed to the Avoca circuit and assisted in the erection of the new church. The church at Pontiac was built the same year. Rev. J. Mendell was appointed in 1859, and again in 1860. He resigned in June of that year, and Rev. M. Scurlock was appointed.

HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ODELL.

The history of this parish is like the history of most Catholic congregations in Illinois, a record of small beginnings, of heroic struggle and sacrifice on the part of a religious and devoted people. The first Catholic church was built here in 1873. Before that time the spiritual wants of the Catholics were attended to by priests from Dwight and other neighboring towns. Services previous to 1873 were held in a public hall. At this time Odell was in the Chicago diocese, and the Right Rev. Thomas Foley was bishop. His diocese was quite extensive, and it was impossible for him to give that attention to the smaller parishes which they deserved. Moreover, his efforts were mainly directed to the rebuilding of the churches and schools of the city of Chicago, which had been destroyed by the fire of 1871. Hence in many of the country districts it became a necessity for the people themselves to take the initiative in erecting churches and schools.

March 1, 1873, the Catholics of this community decided to erect a church. A committee was appointed and incorporated under the state law. The gentlemen composing the committee were Messrs. Michael Cleary, Edward Collins, Thomas E. Lyons, Bernard Lyons, Frank Craven and John Harbison. These were among the wealthiest and most respected members of the congregation, and after the untiring efforts of several months, they succeeded in raising \$6,000 for the new church. A substantial frame church was erected, proclaiming to all the undying faith of these good people in the religion of their martyred forefathers, and their ardent desire to have that religion handed down to their children.

There was not yet a resident pastor in Odell, and the Right Rev. Bishop Spalding, the newly appointed bishop of Peoria, and whose name is now honored throughout the Catholic world, promised to send a resident pastor if the people would erect a parochial house. The committee were not slow in getting the necessary funds for the erection of the rectory, and in September, 1877, Rev. Father Boylan was appointed first pastor of Odell Catholic congregation.

The members who compose the congregation today do not forget the zeal and foresight of these good men, who, unaided by bishop or priest, carried to a successful issue these undertakings. They laid the foundation of a congregation which has grown to be one of the largest and most influential in this part of the state.

Father Boylan was pastor until 1882, when he was succeeded by Rev. Father Halpin. Father Halpin was much beloved by his congregation, and during his pastorate, owing to the increase in the membership, it was found necessary to enlarge the church. Father Halpin died here in 1893, and his successor was Rev. L. Selva. He remained until September, 1899, when the present pastor, Rev. P. Griffy, took charge. Father Selva did a grand work in this parish when he erected a beautiful brick school (costing \$12,000), for the Christian education of the children of the parish.

In 1901, the congregation decided to build a new church. They naturally hesitated to sever their connection with the old sacred edifice, which was endeared to them by many holy associations, where many of them were baptized, or married, or received the other ministrations

of a church that they loved; but the building was no longer adequate to accommodate the congregation, which now numbers 1,000 souls.

The building with its decorations, statuary, altars, etc., cost about \$70,000, and it is a credit not only to the members of the congregation but to the town of Odell. Rarely does one see such a church with its artistic windows, its magnificent statuary, three altars of Carrara marble, its beautiful paintings and frescoes in a town of this size. The people are justly proud of it, and believe it will be an influence for good for many centuries to come.

The building committee of the new church was composed of Messrs. Michael Cleary, James Murphy, Joseph Bellot, Sr., P. H. Langan, Owen Feehan, Joseph Verdun, Frank Erchen and S. J. Lyons, who acted as secretary.

A rectory was built in 1904 at a cost of \$12,000. It is one of the finest parochial houses in the diocese of Peoria. The Catholics of Odell are proud of their buildings and pardonably so.

In conclusion, it might well be said that, in some particulars, St. Paul's Church of Odell is a credit not alone to Odell, but to the county and state, and more especially to Rev. Father Griffy, its present pastor, whose artistic taste directed and designed it. There are many handsome religious edifices in America, but none has more harmony of color in its interior decorative scheme than St. Paul's Church. So pleasing, so quieting, one feels at ease with all the world, and his thoughts turn to things of good. The stained glass windows are real gems of art by Italian artists, depicting scenes in the life of Christ. The fourteen statuesque groups illustrating the Saviour's journey to Calvary and his ignominious death on the cross, are wonderful in their conception of pose and expression. All were sculptured in Italy. The three beautiful marble altars all indicate a most delicately refined taste, as well as religious fervor. The people of St. Paul's Church are to be congratulated upon having a pastor of such rare artistic ability and who has such a high regard not alone for their spiritual welfare but their temporal comforts. The publishers and editors of this work regret that they are not able to publish a personal biography of Rev. Father Griffy. In response to a request for data for the same, he said "My life is for my people. Whatever I do or accomplish is for

them and the glory of God, and that well done, I am content."

THE PONTIAC METHODIST CHURCH.

In a paper of reminiscences, the work of the present generation is too new and apparent to be mentioned, so let us forget ourselves for a moment and go back to the beginning of Methodism in Pontiac, back to the time when the circuit rider came to bring the message of salvation and the comfort of the gospel to the settlers scattered over the prairies. In that day Pontiac was but a name upon the map. Then neighbors lived miles distant and their onerous duties kept men and women too busy to be neighborly. The arrival of the circuit rider was a veritable God-send from a purely social standpoint, if no other. Word having been sent ahead and some energetic lad having been found to spread it in the neighborhood, the announcement that preaching services would be held at such a farm-house usually brought a number of people from their tasks to enjoy rest for their bodies and refreshment for their souls. The points in the neighborhood of Pontiac where services were most frequently held were at John Foster's, later at Philip Rollins' and north at the Perry place. After 1852, when the Remicks settled at Rudd's mill, west of Pontiac, this place became a gathering point for Methodists, and was more of a center because the farmers came for many miles to bring their grist to mill. Pontiac was not very plous in those days. One of the mill hands at Mr. Remick's mill was sick and his life was despaired of. There was no man at the mill to pray by his sick bed, so Mrs. Remick sent in to Pontiac for the only man who had the reputation of ever having been religious, and he sent word that he was not fit to do it. The man died and was buried without a word of prayer either at the bedside or the open grave.

The opening of the railroad in 1854 brought new settlers, and in 1855 or 1856 the first school house was erected on the bank of the Vermillion river in the jail yard. This was a better location then than at first thought it might seem to be, for until 1866 Pontiac was without that valuable adjunct to civilization known as a county jail. As the town grew the desire for a dedicated place of worship grew; accordingly, a subscription was taken and a sufficient sum



ST. PAUL'S PAROCHIAL RESIDENCE, ODELL



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, ODELL

of money promised, when an ugly rumor began to circulate that the Presbyterians intended to have the new edifice dedicated as a Presbyterian church. Talk about waving a red flag at a bull! Six active, energetic, zealous Methodists had a conference, pledged \$75, and each taking a subscription paper started on the war path. Money was raised, some of it being diverted from its Presbyterian course, and the M. E. Church became an assured fact.

Unfortunately in the criminations and recriminations which followed an ugly feeling was engendered, which required years to eradicate. Indeed, it was not until most of those who had fought and bled on the battle field had passed away.

The timbers were cut, the saw mills were kept busy. Messrs. Gunsel and Maples, the carpenters, were urged to make haste, for the spirit of old Adam still lingered in good Methodists and made them hope to have their church finished before that of the Presbyterians, but alas, they were four weeks behind, and on December 13, 1857, the presiding elder, old Father Hall, dedicated in Pontiac the first Methodist Episcopal church.

That was a notable building and worthy of a description, for it cost \$1,400. It served the Methodists as a place of worship for nine years, when it was sold to the Catholics. It stood where the Catholic church now stands fronting to the west. It was in the Colonial style of architecture, 28x40, with a portico in front, surrounded by Greek columns, rising to support the gable. A cupola where hung the historic bell adorned the roof. It was painted white without and white within; instead of having a vestibule there was a recess in the middle of the front, with a door at either side, opening directly into the church, besides the choir, who occupied the back seats. At the other end was the pulpit, with its chancel rail, at either side of which were two benches, which at protracted meetings became the mourners' seats. These seats were uncompromisingly straight and hard. On either side, about the middle, were two cannon stoves, which in winter scorched those who came near them, without warming those a few feet away.

A few weeks after the dedication a revival was held. The pastor in charge of the church was one who belonged to that class of men who mistake perspiration for inspiration. He was

tall, raw boned, black-haired, a magnetic, impassioned and powerful preacher, but an abusive, quarrelsome, coarse-fibered sensationalist. He was returned to Pontiac for the second year, but Pontiac would have none of him, and upon their absolute refusal to receive him, he was compelled to seek greener pastures.

This revival was accompanied by a manifestation of "the jerks." This manifestation was not peculiar to Pontiac nor to Methodists, for the most remarkable instances occurred among the Presbyterians of the Western states.

The revival began in Avoca and continued there for about three weeks and was then transferred to Pontiac, continuing two weeks.

The first night of the meetings in Pontiac, the "Jerkers," numbering between twenty and thirty, came from Avoca to help arouse enthusiasm. Adjoining the church to the south was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Remick, who had a short time before moved into the village, and upon them descended the whole outfit for their supper. The tables were stretched out and loaded with eatables, though how Mrs. Remick managed it remains a mystery. After handling their chairs like people with the St. Vitus dance, they managed to seat themselves, and then began a scene that rivals description. Imagine thirty people trying to put food into their mouths, and half of them sending it onto the floor, or raising a cup of coffee to their lips, when a spasmodic jerk of the arm would send it across the table. Imagine, too, the state of Mrs. Remick's carpet when they had adjourned to the church, for more victuals were on the floor than had been eaten, and the stove, unable to stand up under such repeated jarring of the floor, had gone over. Outside the disorder was almost as bad, for in the attempt to feed the horses, the entire haystack was scattered around for rods. In the church one man jerked so violently that he knocked the plaster off the wall at the end of his seat. Children were frightened, the "boys," of course, were amused, and many were greatly alarmed. It was rumored that those who scoffed would certainly be afflicted, and in many cases this fear acted as a bridle, but the Livingston County News lampooned the preacher, and the editor the following night was the target of denunciation, expressed in very muscular English. This was the first time in Pontiac the newspaper was accused of being the "work of the devil."

To the credit of Pontiac people their self-possession and common sense carried the day, and but few persons became victims of the malady.

It was at this time that Elder Stubbles and Mr. Remick came into open conflict, and the elder revenged himself for all time by contemptuously referring to Mr. Remick and his official associates as "court house rats," a name which still sticks and is likely to continue to do so so long as the court house stands.

The events which have most thrilled our people, which have stirred them to their very hearts' depths, were at the breaking out of the war. Some of our citizens and church members had already gone to the front, when in 1862 was held the great war meeting in the old court house, and the 129th Illinois Volunteers was organized. Among those who enlisted was Thomas Cotton, pastor of this church, who became the chaplain of the regiment. Speaking of this event, he says: "A. E. Harding made a ringing speech in presenting a sword to the veteran Capt. Payne. When brother J. F. Culver was called for to make a speech, he responded: 'I can not make a speech until I have first signed the muster roll;' then the patriotic fire blazed beyond control."

Every male member of the M. E. Church but two enlisted. Of these two, one was a cripple, and the other a physician. And strange to relate, every Methodist of the 129th returned. Indeed the church lost during the war but two men, Anthony Knight, who was killed at Shiloh, and Francis Penfield, who was killed at Peach Tree Creek, Georgia. Those enlisting who were members of the church or congregation were: J. F. Culver, John Lee, J. W. Smith, G. W. Bay, Amos Clark, John Harper, Thomas Cotton, Anthony Knight, Robert Kingore, James E. Bastien, D. J. Lyon, James Gaff, H. C. Achurst, Isaac Aeri, D. P. Murphy, John Evans, Richard Evans, Francis Penfield.

The subscription for the new church was taken June 21, 1866, and amounted to \$7,011.75, according to the original copy on record. Morris Johnson was treasurer and with W. S. Lacey, Charles Knight, E. W. Capron and William Manlove, had charge of the work. The plan was for a two story brick church 40x80 feet, with corner towers, an audience room above seating 325, and Sunday school and class rooms below. The basement was completed and dedicated with appropriate services by Rev. Joseph

S. Cummings, assisted by Revs. M. F. Havermale, J. G. Evans, Thomas Cotton and W. A. Cumming, Nov. 10, 1867. The question of renting pews was brought up in a report of a committee in favor of it in 1868; the matter was laid upon the table, and this church has always had the glory of a free pew, a people's church. For four years the audience room had stood unfinished, so W. S. Lacey, at the head of a committee, was directed to complete it at an estimated cost of \$5,000. Three thousand dollars was subscribed and a loan of \$2,000 was effected. The church was completed and known as the "Centenary church," from being commenced in 1866, the centennial year of the Methodist Episcopal church. It was dedicated by Rev. J. M. Reed, of New York, assisted by Revs. F. M. Chaffee, R. D. Russell, R. G. Pearce and others. This was a proud day. The church was estimated to have cost in all nearly \$22,000 and it is equal to any in the conference.

July 4, 1874, was one of the darkest days in the history of Pontiac. A beautiful, new, solid brick hotel had been erected and Union Block was the city's pride. On that day, at noon time, a carelessly thrown fire-cracker caused one of the buildings to burst into flames, which instantly swept from building to building till in one short hour naught remained of the blocks, the Phoenix Hotel and court house, but heaps of smoking embers. This great fire swept away in a few minutes thousands of dollars, the savings of years, much of it belonging to members of the church. This loss, following the panic, almost paralyzed the church for the next five years. Court for the next term was held in the basement of the church until better quarters could be provided. Early in 1874, Mrs. Alice Tindall and Ruth Carlon solicited subscriptions and collected \$400 for a bell for the church and the bell was ordered with the names of the two ladies cast in raised letters upon it. In the tower it rang its tidings of joy and sorrow, and warned the city when the fire-fiend was abroad until it shrieked with terror its last warning in February of 1885, while the flames were climbing its perch on high in the church tower to silence forever its clanging tongue.

In 1879 the failure of the banking house of J. F. Culver and the results of the panic and fire loss accumulating, threw the church into great gloom. This was perhaps the most crit-

ical year in the history of the church, either before or since. The financial disaster, involving so many leading men, affected the credit of its management at a time when no effort to raise the debt seemed possible, or even to renew the loan, which was now due and which must be paid or the church sold. Frantic efforts were made to prevent the foreclosure of the trust deed, but in vain.

The brick church, erected at an estimated cost of \$22,000, was advertised for sale to satisfy the mortgage of \$2,000 and interest for one year. The church was sold at the court house door in May, 1879, and bought in by the agent of Mr. T. J. Bunn, of Bloomington, who held the mortgage. The members were in despair and there were wringing of hands and shedding of tears, which were of avail, as they doubtless aided in securing thirty days' grace in which to redeem the property. The remaining \$2,500 above this amount of debt, not secured by mortgage, was for the time forgotten.

Mrs. Mary M. Culver and Mrs. Ruth Carlin started around with a subscription paper canvassing everybody for something to redeem the Methodist church, and by persistent efforts, with the aid of others, raised the amount and paid off the judgment and the trust deed was released June 9, 1879.

Wednesday night, February 15, 1885, the great calamity of that day occurred, when the cry was heard, "The Methodist church is burning." The furnace had been used and the fire caught in a defective chimney. It was about 11 o'clock at night when the alarm came and John S. Murphy and several others were first on hand, but nothing could be saved and the Methodist church bell tolled its own knell. The insurance was only \$5,000.

Pastor McVety and his officials were sorrowful, but not disheartened, and plans for rebuilding were immediately under consideration. On March 8, 1885, the subscription was taken in the services held in the circuit court room. The building committee—T. W. McVety, J. T. Gibson, C. E. Legg, William Watt, N. Q. Tanquary and J. S. Voight—were appointed March 11. The adjoining lot was purchased, plans were secured and bids opened June 1, ranging from \$14,000 to \$19,000. The cornerstone of the present structure was laid by the lamented Bishop S. M. Merrill, June 29, 1885.

The dedication of the new church (the pres-

ent edifice), was held on April 4, 1886. Since that time a beautiful new parsonage has been erected on the lot adjoining the church on the south, a new pipe organ has been installed in the church, and the membership increased to one thousand, while the Sunday school numbers 500. The present pastor is Rev. John H. Ryan, assisted by the Rev. E. Wasmuth.

THE PONTIAC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The first preaching by a Presbyterian minister was in 1852 by Rev. Amasa Drake of Chicago. The services were conducted at the Buck Hotel and were at irregular intervals. Rev. Mr. Day, of Morris, preached a few times in the old court house, as did also Rev. Mr. High. The first regular preaching was by Rev. L. H. Loss, of Joliet, in 1855, when he organized the Presbyterian church of Pontiac. Public notice was given early in the month of October, 1855, for a meeting to be held at the school house to consider the subject of organizing a church on the basis of the Congregational or Presbyterian order. At the time appointed thirteen persons were assembled. Consultation was then had in regard to whether the church, which it was proposed to form would be Presbyterian Old school, Presbyterian New school or Congregational. A strong effort was made to form one of the last named—a church whose leading feature should be the entire and immediate abolition of slavery. With direct reference to this Dr. H. H. Hinman had been laboring here for the year previous. Some present, however, although anti-slavery in principle, were somewhat more conservative in principles. They consulted what they regarded as the highest interests of the cause of Christ, and believed the plan proposed would militate against that end. As no plan could be adopted the meeting adjourned. At the adjourned meeting not as many were present as at the former one. This also adjourned without their deciding with which of the above named bodies to connect. During the month of November, 1855, the third meeting was held, at which, owing to the prevalence of sickness and other causes, but five persons assembled. These were Rev. W. J. Murphy and Mrs. Adeline C. Murphy of the old style Presbyterian church, Abel C. Kidder and Nancy Kidder of the Congregational church, and

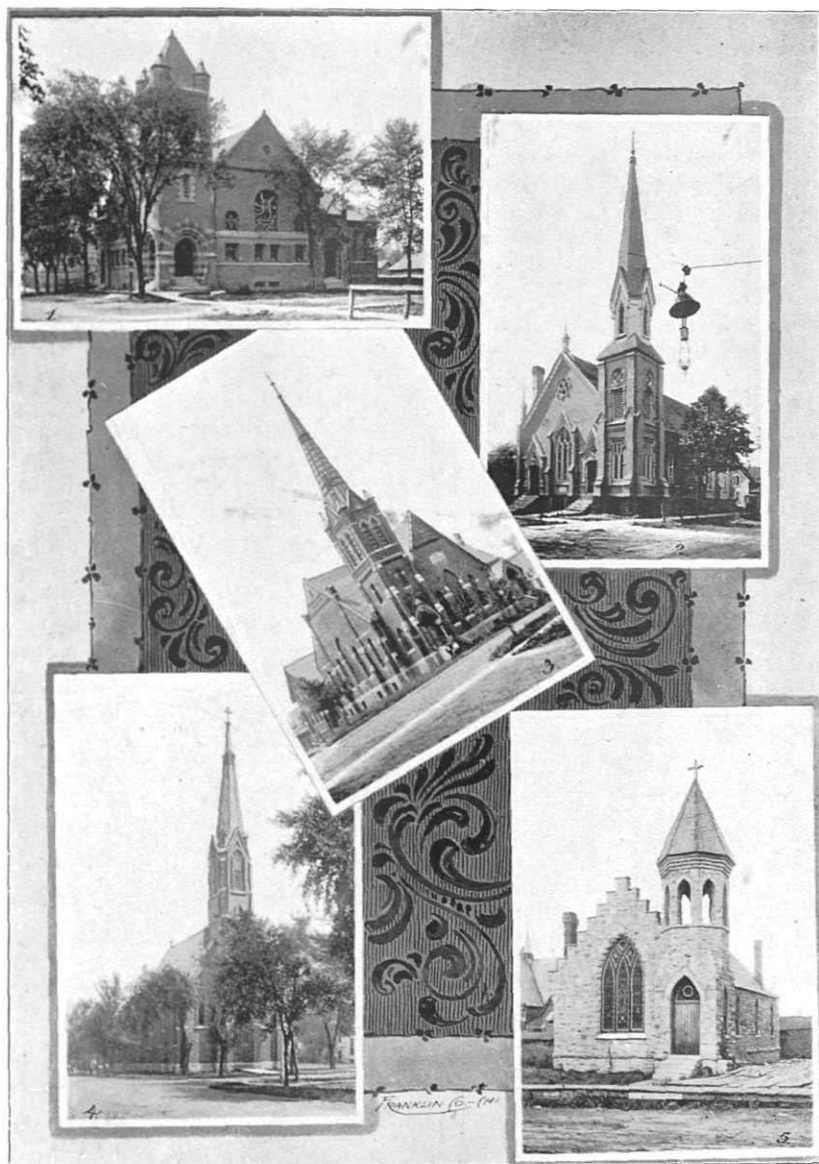
Mrs. Maria Buck of the Methodist church. After prayer and consultation these persons, feeling imperatively the necessity of the formation immediately of a church and of sustaining the institution of the gospel, were cast by the hands of Divine Providence into the crucible of Christian expediency. The result was a new school Presbyterian church. Abel C. Kidder was elected elder. A resolution was passed that the church apply for admission into the Presbytery at Ottawa. Rev. L. H. Loss being present a few weeks subsequent and suggesting good reasons for connection with the Presbytery of Chicago, the resolution referred to was rescinded and a resolution passed requesting admission into the last named Presbytery, which was presented and granted at their session in March, 1856.

On the Sabbath following the formation of the church, Mrs. Jane Smith was received into the church by letter. Rev. L. H. Loss ministered to the church until April, 1856, when Rev. I. T. Whittemore became pastor. The school house in which the church was organized stood on land belonging to the county just west of the jail lot and opposite the Lutheran church. Later it was occupied by the colored Baptists, who moved the building to a lot on east Prairie street. They sold the building and again it was moved further east on Prairie street, where it still stands in a good state of preservation, being occupied as a dwelling. After Mrs. Jane Smith came many others who united with the church, and in the spring of 1857 work was commenced on the erection of the first church building in Pontiac (with one exception, the first in the county). The church building was dedicated on Sunday, November 15, 1857, Rev. L. H. Loss preaching the dedicatory sermon. This edifice cost \$3,000 and in its day was considered an extensive structure. A few years later came John W. Daman, who organized the best choir of its size that has ever been heard in the history of Pontiac down to the present day. The members were John W. Daman, Leander Utley, James E. Morrow and the Misses Mary and Margaret Murphy. Henry G. Greenebaum presided at the organ. In 1870 came George W. Perkins, the first superintendent of the Pontiac Reform School, who in later years was at the head of the New York Life Insurance Company. He had always taken an active part in Sunday school work, and shortly after

coming here was elected superintendent of the Sabbath school. Through his peculiar efforts, which were largely on the mission order, the school was more than doubled and the attendance became so large that Mr. Perkins at once commenced talking of building a larger church. He set on foot a church fair in which the whole community became interested. The fair was held in a large tent adjoining the church, and the net results of the fair were nearly \$1,500. This was the nucleus of the fund that built the present church, which was commenced in 1872, but not finished until the winter of 1874, at a cost of something over \$16,000. In 1899 the church was entirely remodeled on the inside and in 1901 an elegant pipe organ, costing \$2,000, was added. The pastors in charge since Rev. Whittemore have been: Revs. Adams Johnston, Alonzo P. Johnson, J. S. McConnell, J. A. Gardner, R. Kessler, Benjamin L. Swan, L. C. Little, D. G. Bradford, E. I. Davies, D. K. Campbell, James H. Hatfield, Orlando Hart, and James A. Liggitt. The first superintendent of the Sunday school was Jason W. Strevell.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF PONTIAC.

Rev. Washington Houston was the pioneer preacher of the Christian church in Pontiac. Rev. Houston conducted services at the different homes of the members and in the court house and school house, beginning his ministrations in 1854. The primary organization consisted of Dr. J. M. Perry, Wilson Hull, Robert Sample, William Perry and their wives. Irregular services were held at the places noted until 1865, when they united with another denomination called "New Lights," an off-shoot of the Christian church, in the erection of a church building. The house was put up at a cost of \$4,000 and occupied by both societies. Like any church or social organization where the members hold to different views in regard to religious forms the two societies did not dwell together in unity, and a few years later most of the "New Lights" had either withdrawn from the congregation or moved away. The Christians kept up a semblance of an organization with irregular preaching services until 1870, when a feud broke out in the church which almost rent the body in twain. Some of the more progressive members had installed an organ and proceeded to organize



CHURCHES, PONTIAC

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|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Baptist | 2. Presbyterian |
| 3. Methodist Episcopal | 4. St. Mary's Catholic |
| 5. Grace Episcopal | |

a choir, which did not meet with the approval of a large number of the older members of the church, who characterized the new instrument as an emissary of his satanic majesty, and would have none of it. For a time the church was hopelessly divided, those in favor of the organ attending one Sunday, and those opposed to it the next. Finally an open rupture occurred over the matter at a church meeting held for the purpose of deciding the organ question. Strong language was used on both sides, the result being that one of the most prominent members was brought into court with a \$10,000 suit for slander against him. The parties to the suit, however, got together and the whole affair was settled amicably, the main cause of the trouble—the organ—being allowed to remain. Thus united, the church extended a call in 1874 to Elder Charles Rowe, who ministered to the congregation for one year, followed by the Rev. W. F. Richardson, who remained about four years, until 1880. During the next twenty years the services were irregular, being conducted by young men sent out from the college located at Eureka. In 1899 the membership became more vigorous and a call was extended to the Rev. Harry Holmes. Rev. Holmes was a brilliant young man and a good organizer and soon had the church on a solid footing. At the end of two years he resigned, to be followed a short time later by the Rev. Andrew Scott, who served two years. Then came the Rev. W. G. McColley. Mr. McColley was also an organizer and soon after his arrival steps were taken for the erection of a larger and more commodious church edifice. The old church property was sold and a lot on the corner of Chicago and Washington streets purchased. Pledges for the erection of the new church were started and the work of building commenced. It was dedicated December 17, 1905, and is now one of the leading church organizations in the city, having a large membership, with only a small debt. Rev. McColley having completed his good work in Pontiac, resigned in November, 1907, to be succeeded by the Rev. Allen Shaw, the present pastor.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FAIRBURY.

Co-incident with the laying out of the village of Fairbury was the foundation of the First Baptist church, and the record of each has been

so interwoven in the past half-century, that the history of one would be incomplete without the history of the other. Fairbury has just passed the half-century mark, and Saturday evening and Sunday, October 3 and 4, 1908, the members of the First Baptist church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organization. It was but fitting that the people of the city as a whole should participate in this event, and with the exception of the social function Saturday evening (the anniversary supper), the public was invited.

At the banquet held on Saturday evening in the dining room of the church, about 300 guests were present, and as souvenirs of the occasion, a card bearing in gold letters, "First Baptist Church of Fairbury, Oct. 3, 1858—Oct. 3, 1908," and a book containing a synopsis of church history were placed beside each plate. After the delivery of an address of welcome by J. H. Carter, chairman of the evening, Mrs. Carrie Karnes-Eckhart, of Weston, read a paper prepared by herself under the title, "Fifty Years of Retrospect," of which the principal part is here given:

"Looking down the long vista of searchlight of the present, into the years through the powerful electrical romantic candle-light of half a century ago, we find the same seasons of joy and sorrow, tragedy and comedy; the same mountains and rivers and oceans; the same God guarding and directing all, just as He was the Guiding Star and the Pilot of those simple-hearted Pilgrims who sought a happier home under more friendly skies, and hence were drawn to our own beautiful America. And hither, also, came, a few years later, a young man, whose love of God was only equaled by his love for humanity—Roger Williams. He, after many hardships and much persecution, became pastor of the First Baptist Church of Providence, R. I. This was in 1639, but his teachings and influences have been, through all the generations down to the present, as lasting as time, and as broad as the world. Influences which have been borne on the pinions of eternity, and which may yet sweep over vast and immeasurable fields of space in their results for good, and tell upon the destinies of men and nations while the ages of eternity roll their ceaseless cycles forever onward. The golden chain which binds together this vast assembly tonight, was forged in the hearts of a very small number of the followers of the invincible Roger Williams, and for the improvement of themselves, spiritually and so-

cially, and as an inheritance for their posterity, they met by common consent, one September evening, fifty years ago, to speak of organizing a Baptist church in Fairbury. This meeting was held in a school house, situated in the vicinity of the present home of our esteemed townsman, Patton John. After a sermon by Elder Branch, it was decided to meet on the first Saturday in October, for those who so desired, to organize a Baptist church. Elder Branch convened a council of neighboring Baptist churches, but when the day arrived only a few were present and the work of organizing was postponed until the next morning. On Sunday morning Oct. 3, 1858, only three members of the council were present from the Smith Grove church; but, with the intrepid spirit and dauntless courage of Roger Williams behind them, they proceeded to organize, and the following presented their letters and formed themselves into the first Baptist church of Fairbury, these being: Caleb and Orpha Patton, Jesse Hanna, Richard and Johanna Hanna. Elder Branch then preached a sermon of counsel and advice to the new church, after which the New Hampshire confession of faith was adopted, and the covenant read and accepted. Elder Branch continued to preach every other Sabbath. On March 5, 1859, brother A. W. and sister M. A. Higbee were received by letter; Caleb Patton was chosen deacon and Richard Hanna, clerk. On Saturday, March 15, of the same year, Jacob and Pleasant Cumpston were received as candidates for baptism, and the ordinance was administered the next day. These two were the first members received into the church by baptism, and are with us tonight together with two others, Mrs. Elhanan Morris and Mrs. Susan Shephard, earnest and faithful, and find their greatest pleasure in doing the Master's work, now in the peaceful sunset of life, just as it was in the glorious heyday of youth.

"On April 3, Rev. Skinner commenced his pastorate, and on that date—April 3, 1859—the first communion was held. Mr. Skinner's stay was brief, making his home alternately with Hugh McKee and Caleb Patton. On the 30th of April, Hugh McKee was accepted for baptism, and Ephraim Hanna on May 14th, and both were baptized on the same day. In two weeks, Jennima McKee followed her husband in baptism, and on that day Thomas Edwards was also received by baptism. June 26th, Decatur Veatch of Randolph

Grove was accepted on his experience, and in July, George B. Conn joined by letter. The church was now supplied for three months by Elder Freeman, who was succeeded for a few Sabbaths by Elder Benton. At this time the members voted to co-operate with neighboring Baptist churches in forming an association. The delegates met at Metamora, Woodford County, September 12, 1859, and the "Illinois River Baptist Association East" was organized. At a meeting held August 6th, a most important step was taken—a committee was appointed to secure lots on which to build a church. On April 7, 1860, a call was given to Rev. B. F. Scrivens, which was accepted and Mr. Scrivens became the first regular pastor. At this time William Edwards was received into the church, on experience. At the first anniversary of the association, which met at Panola, Woodford County, the report from the new church was as follows:

"Increase by baptism, 6; by letter, 6; by experience, 2—total membership, 19. In the following year 15 were received by baptism and 4 by letter, making a total membership of 38.

"About this time everything became unsettled owing to the difference of opinion between the citizens of the northern and southern states in regard to several questions. The national flag floated over a divided people, and in a short time the clash and din of contending armies marked the advent of a civil war. The progress of the church was slightly retarded—four of the members (names not given), having gone "where duty calls," while others were willing and ready to go. Church services were held during this time and, up to 1865 or '66, in a hall situated near the present site of the Fred Werling meat market. Notwithstanding these gloomy and unsettled years, the church kept steadily on, and seemed to span the dark clouds of civil strife with the rainbow of Hope, and during Rev. Scrivens' pastorate of three years, he baptized 27, received 17 by letter and 3 by experience, making a total membership of 47, and in 1863 the church felt strong enough to entertain the association. During this time, meetings had been held in a school house at Indian Grove, with several conversions, and here was erected what is known as the Union Meeting House.

"The subject of building a church was again agitated, and Caleb Patton donated four lots for the purpose. Two were sold to help pay for the building. A thousand dollars was loaned

from the 'Church Edifice Fund' and work was begun. Rev. Hempstead was pastor for a short time when the building was commenced. It was the intention of the committee to erect a frame building, and the timber was donated and delivered, but after careful estimates it was found that a brick structure would be less expensive, so the lumber was sold and a brick building erected. During this period many difficulties were encountered and the members were often discouraged. Money was scarce, and materials and wages were high. When the church walls were finally up, they stood without cover for six months, and a long weary year passed ere the building was completed. The church was without a pastor, and the lines seemed very hard, but the members pulled together, and sent an earnest and urgent request to Rev. James Carnes to come and undertake the guidance of the church. Mr. Carnes visited them, went carefully over the ground, and finally accepted the call, commencing his labors on June 25, 1865. A former historian says this of Bro. Carnes: 'He was a man of great spiritual power and ability, and his ministry was blessed with what may be termed a continuous revival.' During his pastorate of less than five years, 189 persons were received by baptism, and the church numbered 260 members. During 1870 a mission was established at Forrest, others at Potosi and Weston having been previously established, and in the next year Weston became an independent church, 41 persons taking letters from here."

Others who served as regular pastors or temporary supplies—among the latter being a number of students of Morgan Park Theological Seminary and the University of Chicago—were Revs. Jones, Gross, J. C. Read, C. D. Merit, I. S. Mahon, E. R. Pierce, Robbins, Gill, S. A. Perrine and J. J. Crosby. Of these the pastorate of Rev. C. D. Merit was the longest, covering a period of six years. During the pastorate of Elder Crosby in 1888, the erection of a new church building was begun, which was completed at a cost of \$5,479.19, but there being a deficit of \$147.45 at the opening services, subscriptions were immediately taken to the amount of \$300.13, and the house was dedicated, Dr. A. A. Kendrick of Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, preaching the dedicatory sermon. The Woman's Missionary Society took a prominent and active part in all the work, raising and donating \$610 for the furnishing of the church. The pulpit

was filled later by Rev. J. W. Neyman, and Rev. J. Coker, during the pastorate of the latter a parsonage being built. The pulpit was again filled by students from the University of Chicago, and owing to misunderstandings some unpleasantness was developed, but this was overcome by the accession of Rev. W. R. Riley to the pastorate, who served most acceptably from 1892 to 1897, during that time receiving 150 additions to the church, of whom 101 were by baptism. He was succeeded by Rev. E. S. Story, and other students, until November, 1897, when Rev. H. H. Hurley was ordained as regular pastor, followed by Revs. F. F. Whitcomb, Reynolds, Betts, James Ryan, E. Lewis Kelly, J. W. Bailey, and C. S. Burns of the University of Chicago, who entered upon his duties in March, 1907, and has remained to the present time. The church now has a total membership of 187, while the church property is valued at \$18,000. The church sustained a heavy loss in 1908, in the death of Mrs. Harriet Newhall Cromer, who had been a faithful and liberal member for 43 years.

THE COLORED CHURCHES OF PONTIAC.

Previous to 1867 the colored people of Pontiac attended church and Sabbath school along with their white brethren, being divided among the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists. During the year the school building on the banks of the Vermillion on Water street was abandoned for school purposes and the colored people at once took possession. The colored Methodists withdrew in 1872 and purchased the Turner Hall on West Washington street, which was transformed into a house of worship, and they have remained there to this date. The colored Baptists worshipped in the old school house for many years, until the building was ordered moved by the board of supervisors. They now have a commodious church at the corner of North Hazel and West Prairie streets.

EARLY SUNDAY SCHOOLS

If there was any one thing that the people of the long ago took more interest in than another, it was religious exercises of all kinds. To say aught against any one's belief on the subject of foreordination or baptism was to

invite an argument that might end in lifelong enmity, as there is nothing a man will fight for any quicker than his particular brand of religion. So the boys and girls were always sure to be at Sunday school each Sabbath morning, rigged out in the best garments they had, and loaded with a small, sometimes a very small, number of verses of the New Testament, "by the heart"—that is, so they could say them without being prompted more than twice or three times in each verse. The Sunday school in the winter was poorly attended, as the winters were generally very severe, but in the spring and good old summer time the seats in the meeting house were well filled. There were no "Gospel Hymns," or other song books, except the hymn book used in church services, in the back of which were a few songs for the Sunday school. There were no lesson leaves, or other helps; but the youth had to sit straight up and guess off such answers to questions asked by the teacher, who was usually some one who knew but little more than they did, out of the Testament, and which the scholar, if he was a boy, had hardly looked at. Then, when the lesson was done, the teacher would ask how many had committed verses. Any prepared was given a chance to shine his light. The first chapter of John was a great favorite, and seven or eight verses was generally the limit without prompting; and if by virtue of much thought one got through ten of them, he got a blue ticket, one for each two verses recited. Ten blue tickets equaled a red one, and ten red ones got a yellow one, and ten of these got a Testament worth probably a quarter. But the amount of money tied up in Testaments held in readiness as prizes was never great, as but few were ever needed. Little children, going to Sunday school in these days, dressed like a fashion plate, with rings on their fingers, a gold watch, silk and satin and broadcloth clothes. Lesson leaves and all sorts of helps are given them. An organ and plenty of books help entertain them. And then it takes all sorts of prizes to get them out. Their grandparents who run barefoot all the time in warm or partly warm weather, on Sunday put on their "other clothes"—which, for boys, was only a pair of heavy trousers, a pink waist to which the trousers were attached by a row of buttons, and which did duty as a shirt as well; a little straw hat, maybe homemade, and, as

though life was not already burden enough, his feet, swollen by a forced contact with the earth, were forced into a pair of long stockings and well-greased pair of shoes that pinched him every step. The girls, of course, looked better, with long curls hanging down their backs, wide hats with bangles around the edges, calico or lawn dresses with big hoops; low, flat shoes and gingham pantalets. When Sunday school was over, preaching began. And those children who did not have to stay were allowed to go home and read the Sunday School Advocate. To go forth to seek pleasure was a sin, deserving and receiving a good whipping. But they were as happy as the "kids." of today.

CHAPTER XVI.

HOSPITALS, BENEVOLENT AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

THE KEELEY INSTITUTE—RECORD OF DR. LESLIE E. KEELEY, ITS FOUNDER—BENEFICENT RESULTS ACCOMPLISHED IN CURE OF THE DISEASE OF DRUNKENNESS—OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE—ST. JAMES HOSPITAL, PONTIAC—ITS FOUNDERS AND PRINCIPAL PROMOTERS—MENNONITE HOME FOR THE DEFENSELESS—THE COUNTY FARM—DESCRIPTION OF ALMS HOUSE BUILDING—ILLINOIS STATE REFORMATORY—HISTORY AND SCOPE OF THE INSTITUTION—PRINCIPAL OFFICERS SINCE DATE OF ORGANIZATION.

What seems almost beyond the realm of possibility, probability even, has been effected, a remedy discovered, and its efficacy indisputably proven, for drunkenness, that curse of all ages since Noah's sons scoffed at their father when he forgot himself and lost his senses from over-indulgence in wine. Two thousand years ago the source of such a discovery would have been attributed to Divine intervention, and the discoverer worshipped; two hundred years back he would have been burned as one who held communication with spirits infernal; fifty years ago the world would have laughed and pointed significantly to their foreheads, had anyone been brave enough to assert that such a remedy did exist; but today the public are more intelligent and appreciate that, although there may be "nothing new under the sun," new hiding places



THE KEELEY INSTITUTE, DWIGHT

for wonderful scientific facts are being constantly discovered, and that because of this, old burdens of doubt, dread and superstition are rolling away.

While Illinois furnished a Lincoln to the nation, this State has rendered another far-reaching service to the world; for, as it fell to the lot of Abraham Lincoln to free the millions of black slaves bending under the yoke of their white taskmasters, so Leslie E. Keeley was raised up to break the shackles which bound millions of white slaves in a servitude equally revolting, to drink and drugs. Abraham Lincoln promulgated his Emancipation Proclamation and the black slaves were free. Leslie E. Keeley, through his one sentence, "DRUNKENNESS IS A DISEASE AND I CAN CURE IT," freed those white slaves whose bondage was so much more pitiable. The black man knew no real liberty; the white man, bending under his load of sorrow, had once been upright, able to look the world in the face, and to hold his place in the world among his equals. Little by little he had fallen a victim to the hardest taskmasters the world knows, until he was shackled hand and foot.

For centuries denunciations had been thundered against the man who had looked upon the "wine when it was red," who had forgotten that "wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging." The clergy had always declaimed against it, the physician had doctored the ill drunkenness occasioned, and the lawyer legislated and litigated because of the evil deeds that were its outcome, but it remained for an obscure country doctor to discover the greatest truth given to mankind since the Sermon on the Mount, "DRUNKENNESS IS A DISEASE AND I CAN CURE IT."

Dr. Keeley had a large country practice, and during the course of it he often was called upon to attend those who were suffering directly because of over-indulgence in liquor or drugs. Little by little the idea grew upon him. He differed from his fellow practitioners in that he did not believe a man incurable because he had lost his will power. He also saw many times over that it was entirely useless to tell a man whose will had been held in subjection for years, to call upon that will to free him from the most abject condition of slavery. His experiments along other lines taught him that, if the blood be cleansed of impurity, it is no longer diseased

but whole. He recognized the fact that, because a patient has once had smallpox is no argument that he must forever be attainted. He, as a good Christian, admitted the moral regeneracy of a sinner. Suddenly he realized the truth that drunkenness was a disease as much as any set down in the pharmacopœia, and he sounded his tocsin that has been heard the world around.

Prior to his wonderful discovery, Dr. Leslie E. Keeley practiced at Dwight; after that he practiced the world over, and his great work will never end, although he himself has passed from the scene of his earthly activities. No history of Livingston County would be complete without mention of its most important claim to hold a place in the records of great places of the world. The Leslie E. Keeley Company of Dwight, Livingston County, Ill., U. S. A., is a name which, seen from one pole to the other, from the Oriental shores of Asia across the three continents, two of the oceans back to China and Japan again, brings memories that hold deepest gratitude towards the one who made possible so much.

Few families there are that have not some member afflicted with this pitiful "disease," for just as the appetite for drink prevails, so will drunkenness, and happy may he be who escapes. For centuries moral suasion was tried. There were cases, fortunately many of them, where the "invalid" was brought under the influence of a will so much stronger than his own, that he had strength to keep up the constant struggle. Still there was no surety that a relapse would not occur at any time. There was no real, permanent cure, for the diagnosis was incorrect. As well try to cure typhoid by appealing to the will power as to seek health for the drunkard through the will power.

Dr. Leslie E. Keeley began his investigations upon the theory already given, and argued that he was right; for, as is admitted, disease is caused by imperfect circulation, impure blood, disorganized nerves and a consequent derangement of one or more of the delicate and complicated organs of the human body. Working upon this premise he knew that, having decided that the disease existed, a remedy could be found. The discovery of this remedy became his life work, and his success was but the natural result of intelligent effort directed along scientific lines. Not only was it his task and pleasure

to discover this remedy, but to devise some method by means of which "patients" could be given its effects without any loss of time. After years of patient research, deep study and countless experiments, success crowned his efforts and the results are almost beyond any description.

Of course, like every other great reformer—for truly Dr. Keeley must be regarded as one of the greatest reformers the world has ever known—he was forced to endure great humiliation and submit to be held up to the scorn of those many of whom afterwards very gladly became his patients. Never for a moment did he allow himself to be discouraged, but kept steadily on, repeating his astonishing declaration and sticking to it. At that time there was a great newspaper in the great city of the Central West, edited by Joseph Medill, a broad-gauged man who simply, because he did not understand, did not condemn. The world well knows of the historic test Mr. Medill made of the remedy and through it the proof of Dr. Keeley's contention. Five men selected by the great editor were placed under treatment, and the great discoverer and humanitarian was vindicated, for each one of these men was cured and lived to see many years of happy usefulness.

This was a quarter of a century ago. Since then so many have profited by Dr. Keeley's discovery that the entire viewpoint with regard to drunkenness has changed. Before he lifted the burden, freed the bound, the drunkard was a pariah, an outcast, constantly humiliated and shunned. His wife gradually withdrew from her social connections. Then she began going to church early in the morning, and later in the evening, first through shame and later because, oftentimes, she had no appropriate clothing, for, as the drunkard sunk lower, his powers of earning diminished. His children grew able to detect his staggering step and thickened tongue, and avoided his bloodshot eyes. Where once they had given respect and love, they now were forced to feel disgust and shame. Among other houses on the street, the one occupied by the drunkard could be distinguished because of its run down appearance. When, at last, wasted by disease, crushed by the terrible burden, the drunkard sunk into an untimely grave, he was not truly mourned; and yet he had been martyred, sacrificed to the ignorance of those who ought to have known better, the medical profession.

Today, the unfortunate who has allowed drink

to create the disease of drunkenness, is not allowed by the enlightened to grow dangerously "ill," but is quietly taken to one or other of the Keeley Institutes which are conveniently situated all over the country, and through scientific treatment he is once more brought back to health and moral tone. From the home institute at Dwight has grown the magnificent system which includes one or more institutes in nearly every State in the Union, two in Canada, one in Mexico, one in England, and plans are being effected to establish them in other countries. The Parent Institute and its branches have restored to health more than 350,000 men and women.

Unfortunately for the human race, drunkenness and the use of drugs is not confined to the stronger sex, for women, too, have been thus "diseased" from earliest days, although owing to popular prejudice they have never been as open about their drinking as men. Soon after he began to treat men, however, Dr. Keeley recognized the fact that women needed his help also, and he accordingly made arrangements for their treatment under circumstances satisfactory to them and their families.

The beautiful little town of Dwight is the home of the parent institute, and is proud of the fact. Through the agency of one great man it is known the world over, and many who are not in need of the Cure, flock to see the surroundings of that system which gives back to the world those deemed lost as far as this life is concerned. The setting of the scene is beautiful. Stately buildings are set in the midst of the charming town, undefiled by any smoke-bearing chimneys of manufacturing plants. The most beautiful of these buildings is the new Livingston Hotel, named in honor of the County, which was rebuilt to take the place of the hotel destroyed by fire in February, 1902. On June 3, 1903, when it was completed, the management was distinguished in a way perhaps never accorded another hotel establishment, for President Roosevelt pressed the button which formerly opened it to the public, and it is worthy of the honor done it, for it is without doubt the finest hostelry in Central Illinois. No expense or pains have been spared upon it. On account of the fire, although no one was injured or suffered any loss, the management decided to provide against a similar accident in future when all might not be so fortunate, and built this new structure entirely fireproof. Where tile or marble



ST. JAMES HOSPITAL, PONTIAC

has not been used, the floors are of monolith, which is entirely fire proof. The other materials are brick, stone and steel, and the general effect is not only entirely safe, but charming and comfortable. As many of the relatives of the "patients" accompany them, the Livingston affords them all a delightful, homelike resort where, surrounded by congenial society, invigorated by the cheerful atmosphere, encouraged by physicians and attendants, the sufferers and their loved ones gain in mental and physical health, and go back home feeling as though many years had been lifted from their shoulders. One of the points of interest at Dwight is the water works tower marking the spot of the artesian water, which is alone used at the Livingston.

The laboratory and office adjoin the hotel, and are much admired, and certainly are points of interest to those who realize what an effort for good the remedy manufactured in the laboratory has had. In the second story are the club rooms, reading room and auditorium, and here are to be found "patients" from all classes of life, and of all ages. Experiences are freely exchanged and encouragement given.

This much famed Cure is, after all, simple. It consists of regular doses of remedy taken internally in liquid form, and hypodermic treatment at the treatment hall at 8 A. M., 12 M., 5 and 7:30 P. M., and living according to specific hygienic rules. From the beginning the "patient" realizes that he is going to be cured. He knows that, as have the thousands before him, he is going to be released from his disease and made whole once more. He is not reproached, reproved and urged to "be a man." He is not deprived of liquor or drugs until he is able to get along comfortably without them.

The question is often asked, "Is the patient really cured?" The answer comes surging back from pulpit, bench, bar, and physician's office. It gathers force at the chair of the college professor, the desk of the captain of industry, the merchant prince. It rings true and tried from the throats of soldiers and sailors, from clerks and mechanics, from rich and poor, old and young, from men and women, and it is, "Yes!" The man, who has suffered for years from some once-called incurable disease, knows if he is free of it. He realizes when its terrible symptoms are gone, and he rejoices in his deliverance and goes back to his old life with renewed vigor, with hope for the future and charity to-

wards all men because of the mercy vouchsafed him.

J. R. Oughton is President of the company; Dr. Milton R. Keeley is Vice-President; while Major Curtis J. Judd is Secretary-Treasurer. Major Judd and Mr. Oughton were associated with Dr. Keeley from the inception of the company, and to their business sagacity is due much of the present success. Mr. Oughton is the chemist of the company and purchases all the drugs himself. All of the remedies used at the different institutes are compounded under his supervision. Dr. Keeley died February 21, 1900, at Los Angeles, Cal.; and, although his loss was deeply mourned, his death was not entirely unexpected, and it did not interrupt the business of the corporation. Dr. Milton R. Keeley is a nephew of the late Dr. Leslie E. Keeley and under his instruction and supervision, was thoroughly established in the Keeley work.

ST. JAMES HOSPITAL—PONTIAC.

While the citizens of Livingston County have provided generously and well for the spiritual and intellectual wants of all who choose to live here, they have not forgotten the physical welfare of those whom sickness or poverty or old age has made helpless or miserable. With churches and schools in abundance, a splendid home for the poor was built by the county, a home which stands as a monument to the wisdom and foresight of the men who planned it, as well as to the generosity of the citizens in general.

But with the growth of the county in population and wealth it was felt that there was still needed an institution where the sick could be cared for. More and more it was seen that this county should have a modern hospital, centrally located, where the afflicted could receive skilled care and at the same time be near their friends and relatives. Several attempts had been made to provide such an institution, but success was not attained. However, the efforts of those who had labored in behalf of the project were not to be in vain, for a favorable public opinion was created which was to bear fruit more abundantly than was ever expected.

In the summer of 1904 a resolution was adopted and signed by thirty physicians and surgeons of the county, emphasizing the need of a hospital, and inviting the Franciscan Sisters of the Catholic Church to establish such an insti-

tution, at the same time calling upon the citizens of the county to give the movement their encouragement and financial assistance. At their June meeting of the same year the members of the county board of supervisors approved the plan.

The matter was brought to the attention of the Right Rev. J. L. Spalding, Bishop of Peoria, who at once commissioned the Rev. James A. Dollard, assistant pastor of St. Mary's church, Pontiac, to take charge of the matter. Father Dollard, assisted by a committee of Catholic ladies, began the work of securing a bonus from the citizens of Pontiac and other parts of the county. The members of this committee were Miss Cora Bond, Miss May Bradley, Mrs. A. J. Braunberger, Mrs. J. E. McCarty, Miss Anna McManus, Mrs. Michael Menton, Mrs. James Murphy, Mrs. A. J. Renoe, Miss Ella Scanlan, and Mrs. J. W. Thornton. The sum of twenty thousand dollars was raised.

The site chosen for the hospital was the beautiful property on East Water street, owned by Mrs. Mahala Bradish. It was at one time the home of her uncle, Major Cairns. It is conceded by all to be the most desirable property in Pontiac for hospital purposes. The price was \$12,500.

The hospital was nobly befriended at this time by the late Mrs. Mary Gaylord and her husband, Dr. Edwin Gaylord, who purchased the site for Father Dollard and held it until the following year, when they deeded it to the Sisters at the same price and without interest.

The Franciscan Sisters of Peoria, Ill. accepted the invitation to take charge of the hospital in the autumn of 1906, and on January 29th, 1907, they moved into the old mansion and began their work of mercy. They gave the new institution the name "St. James" in recognition of the work which the Rev. James A. Dollard had done in its behalf.

Plans had been prepared for a new and larger building by R. A. Young, an architect of Pontiac, and the contract was awarded to W. H. Sipe, also of Pontiac. The corner stone of the new building was laid July 21st, 1907, by the Rt. Rev. P. J. O'Reilly, auxiliary bishop of Peoria. The exercises began with a parade from the city hall to the hospital grounds, in which the city and county officials, clergymen, members of the hospital committee, the G. A.

R., and the W. R. C., Company F, I. N. G., and several fraternal societies took part. At the hospital the ceremonies were very impressive and were witnessed by more than two thousand persons. Addresses were delivered by Bishop O'Reilly, the Hon. J. M. Lyon, Mayor of Pontiac, Mr. Thomas Walsh, chairman of the board of supervisors, Dr. J. D. Scouller and E. A. Simmons, Esq.

The new building is a handsome structure, four stories in height, built of buff pressed brick and red sandstone. The interior is finished in red oak, with metal ceilings and white maple floors. It is up to date in every particular, having a splendid operating room, which was furnished by the physicians of the county, an electric elevator, a system of call bells and house telephones, gas and electric light, a hot water heating system, and bright rooms, many of which have been luxuriously furnished by individual citizens and societies. Ten of the rooms have private bathrooms attached. Sister M. Alberta, O. S. F., is in charge.

Besides caring for the sick, the new hospital will provide a comfortable home for old persons of both sexes, who can here pass their declining days in sweet peace and quiet, their wants attended to by the gentle Sisters.

For the great good that it will do in the years to come, for the money which it will save to the citizens by enabling them to avoid long journeys in times of sickness, for its architectural beauty, which makes it an ornament to our already beautiful county seat—for these reasons, and many others, St. James Hospital is an institution of which all the citizens of Livingston County may well feel proud.

HOME OF DEFENCELESS MENNONITES.

Livingston County has become the home of the Defenceless Mennonite Church of North America, the articles of incorporation having been filed for record in the office of the circuit clerk at Pontiac. The incorporators are Benjamin K. Slagle, Nicholas B. Stuckey, Andrew Roth and David N. Claudon, all residing in Nebraska Township, with headquarters at Flanagan. The purpose of the corporation is given as "the support of religious worship by the promotion and maintenance of home and foreign missions, religious schools, seminaries, orphanages, old people's homes, and other church institutions, including church and Sunday school literature." The control and



LIVINGSTON COUNTY POOR FARM

management of the corporation is under the control of nine trustees, of whom the following were the first: Benjamin K. Slagle, Andrew Roth, Moses Roth, Nicholas B. Stuckey, Silas J. Mills, Christian Gerber, Andrew M. Gerig, David M. Zimmerman and David N. Claudon.

THE COUNTY FARM.

The records show that as early as 1859, Livingston County made provision for an almshouse for the incurably insane and unfortunately poor by procuring a farm of 160 acres in Eppards Point township, four miles southwest of Pontiac, for that purpose, and providing a house which was at that time ample for the purpose. As the years went by, other frame buildings were added, but it became evident that the unfortunate of the county were not provided for in a way at all suitable to the wealth and precedence of the county, and further, that should fire break out, there was every prospect that a holocaust would ensue. The increasing population of the county made greater the number of incurably insane, and the need of new quarters for these was imperative. These matters were frequently discussed by the Board of Supervisors and others, the newspapers of the county advocating new buildings, and at the February meeting of the Board in 1894, the committee on Poor House and Farm, in its annual report, urged that action at once be taken toward providing new buildings. The committee making this report was J. E. Morrow, W. E. Thompson and Archibald Crabb. At this same meeting of the Board, Chairman Michael Cleary appointed a special committee to obtain plans and proceed at once with buildings to cost from \$40,000 to \$50,000, this committee consisting of J. E. Morrow, Michael Cleary, W. E. Thompson, J. W. McDowell, and Archibald Crabb, and the work was at once begun. The committee started out on a tour of inspection and was not long in settling upon a plan. The committee secured the services of an architect, and a plain but substantial, yet sufficiently ornamental building, of brick, was planned. Out of eleven bids, the contract was let to W. H. Hamilton, of Kankakee, for \$36,250. This included all but heating and furnishing. By the date of the July meeting of that year the work was under way.

On Tuesday, September 18, 1894, the cornerstone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The exercises were under the direction of J. E.

Morrow, chairman of the special building committee. Most of the members of the Board of Supervisors were present, beside the county officials and 500 residents of the county. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Fr. P. Lyons of Pontiac. The principal address was by Hon. G. W. Patton, who gave an eloquent portrayal of the great work of philanthropy in the past and present. Short addresses were made by Hon. A. E. Harding, Rev. D. K. Campbell, E. A. Sweet, and Superintendent Kerr of the McLean County house. At the opening of the exercises, Mr. Morrow gave a brief historic sketch of the efforts in county house building in this county. The first was erected in 1859. Thirteen years later the second building was erected and in 1878 the third was built, the latter being for the insane.

The structure is a substantial three-story brick building with general shape of a T. The ell runs to the rear and forms the insane department in the second and third stories. The exterior is of La Salle pressed brick and the roof is of slate. The interior finish is of hard pine in natural grain and white walls. Every room and hall is supplied with ventilation and registers and radiators for heat. The front part, as the visitor ascends the steps, is for the Superintendent and family, with his office on the second floor, bed rooms above the third and kitchen and dining room below on first. The laundry, general kitchen, bakery and store room are located on the first floor of the rear wing. At the left of the main part, first floor, are the men's dining and sitting rooms, while at the right are similar rooms for the women. On the second and third floors of the right main part are the dormitories for the men, while at the right are those for the women. The second floor of the wing is for insane women and the third floor for insane men. Each of these departments has a dining room, well lighted halls, comfortable settees, and the rooms are provided with every necessary comfort. In each of the several departments are lavatories, bath tubs and closets, while the building is lighted by electricity furnished by the plant at Pontiac. Within the past year, a portion of the insane ward has been transformed into a hospital.

The power house contains fuel, boiler and engine rooms, and also the fan. There is also a standpipe as part of the power house, and the whole building is supplied with hot and cold

water, and also plugs and hose for fire protection. The laundry machinery is run by a ten-horsepower engine and the plant is very complete. The furnishing of the main building is plain, but substantial and comfortable. The entire cost of the building was \$57,636.08, but since it was first built, improvements amounting to many thousands of dollars, have been made. The building was first occupied on December 10, 1895, the superintendent at that time being N. J. Myer. Mr. Myer died in 1908, when he was succeeded by Clay D. Parker. Mr. Hamilton, the contractor, became financially embarrassed before the building was completed, and it was finished under the direction of the special building committee.

THE COUNTY FARM.—Superintendent Clay D. Parker, of the county farm, and the matron of the same, Mrs. Parker, have not found the work at that institution by any means light during the year 1908. The farm is a big institution, and as it is conducted at present, requires much time and attention. On December 31, there were fifty-two persons being cared for there by the county. The largest number there at any one time was in November, when there were 55, and the smallest number was 49, the total running down to the latter number about the middle of the summer. During the year there occurred eleven deaths at the institution. Nineteen persons were received and eight discharged. There is one person at the farm 107 years old.

ILLINOIS STATE REFORMATORY.

By an act of March 5, 1867, the General Assembly provided for the establishment of the institution known as the "State Reform School," and authorized the Governor to appoint a board of seven trustees to select a site and construct the necessary buildings. The trustees selected Pontiac, as the site in 1869, proceeded with the construction of the buildings, and on Wednesday, October 12, 1870, appointed George W. Perkins, former warden of the state penitentiary, as the first superintendent, and in his charge the school remained until 1872, when Dr. J. D. Scouller was appointed superintendent, who continued in charge until 1891. Until that year, the institution was for boys under 16 years of age. By an act of June 18, 1891, the institution was reorganized, a board of managers substituted for the old board of trustees, and the legal designation changed to the Illinois State Reformatory. Un-

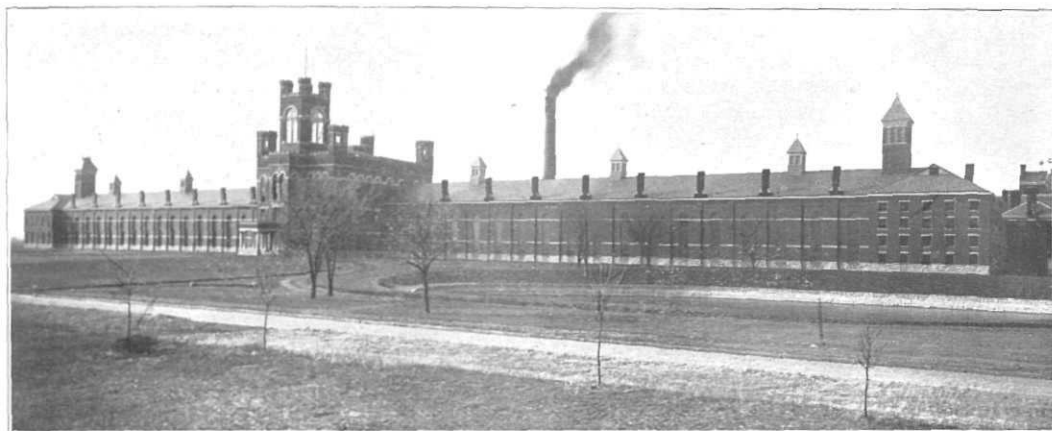
der the act of 1891 the age of admission was raised to 21 years, resulting in a great increase in the number of inmates and necessitating an entire reorganization of the institution and an enlargement of its operating plant.

B. F. Sheets was the first general superintendent and was succeeded in 1893 by R. W. McClaughrey, who was in turn succeeded by George Torrance, who held the office until July 1, 1901. The present superintendent is M. M. Mallary. The institution is under the control of a board of managers, consisting of five members, appointed by the Governor. The general superintendent is ex-officio secretary.

Special attention is given to the educational feature and inmates are required to attend school during one-half of each school day. The schools are equipped with the latest and most approved appliances and are conducted by ten teachers under the charge of a superintendent. The curriculum includes all the branches of a common school education. Industrial training includes instruction in printing, bookbinding, blacksmithing, carpentering, baking, cooking, electrical engineering, knitting, masonry, laundry work, tinwork, barbering, tailoring, cabinet making, paper hanging, farming, gardening and photography. At the session of the Legislature in 1904, \$10,000 was appropriated for the establishment of a regular manual training school. This department is used principally for the boys between the ages of 10 and 16 years.

The operations of the various departments are carried on in 26 buildings, with an aggregate floor space of 425,000 square feet. The buildings, except those connected with the farm, are contained in an enclosure of twenty acres, which also includes drill and parade grounds and playgrounds for the younger inmates. A regular military organization is maintained and the inmates are carefully drilled in United States army tactics and enrolled in the reformatory regiment. In addition to the regular military drill, about thirty minutes of instruction is given daily in calisthenic exercises.

All clothing worn in the institution is manufactured by the inmates. The library contains several thousand volumes. The administration building contains the dining room, and the chapel, which seats over 1,000. In this chapel, Dr. Morron, the chaplain of the institution, presides each Sunday. A band, the members of which



CELL BLOCK, ILLINOIS STATE REFORMATORY, PONTIAC



MAIN BUILDING, ILLINOIS STATE REFORMATORY, PONTIAC

are institution boys, provides music at chapel meetings.

The farm is located south of the buildings. It consists of 200 acres, but unfortunately only a limited number of inmates can be worked on so small a tract. The reformatory also leases several hundred acres of neighborhood land.

Surrounded by beautiful lawns which are shaded by great trees, the reformatory is the handsomest spot in Pontiac. It heads one of the main residence streets of the town which is shaded by a quadruple row of fine shade trees and the institution as viewed from this avenue, with its wide spreading lawn, strung with electric lights used for the lighting of the grounds in the summer, is most attractive. For all of its handsome appearance, however, the reformatory is a prison. The buildings themselves form two sides of a great quadrangle. The other two sides are enclosed by a rude board fence topped with barbed wire and guarded at intervals by board shacks, in which sit guards with rifles. Outside of the stockade lies the institution farm on which the "trusties" and farm hands are worked. With this exception, however, the lives of the inmates are spent in the buildings, which form the quadrangle and are contained in it. They sleep in locked cells at night, though in the day time the fact that they are all working, receiving instruction or engaged in military drill, gives them more freedom than the average prisoner receives. The life, however, is one of enforced regularity, and so closely are the boys guarded that escapes are rare. From the time the youth enters the barred door of the institution, passes the guard, leaves his clothes and receives the reformatory uniform, he is not only a ward of the state, but the state has him under lock and key. The world, made beautiful by parks and lawns, lies just without and often in sight of his longing eyes. Perhaps the fact that only his long continued good behavior can get him through the barred gates to freedom again, may account for the remarkable records made by some of the boys.

CHAPTER XVII.

PATRIOTIC, RELIGIOUS AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC—G. A. R. POSTS AT
PONTIAC, DWIGHT, FAIRBURY, CHATSWORTH,

SAUNEMIN, CORNELL, FORREST, ODELL AND LONG
POINT—DATES OF ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS—
WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS—SONS OF VETERANS—
ARMY NURSES—PONTIAC BIBLE SOCIETY—YOUNG
MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—ITS HISTORY
—BUILDING AND OFFICERS—FRATERNAL ORGANI-
ZATIONS BY TOWNSHIPS.

The following is a list of Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic and related organizations in Livingston County, with dates of the organization of each:

PONTIAC.—T. Lyle Dickey, No. 105, organized July 29, 1881. Past Post Commanders: H. H. McDowell, H. B. Reed, John C. Keach, Charles L. Bigelow, James H. Gaff, Edward L. Wilson, James Fenton, John S. Lee, R. R. Wallace, Oscar F. Avery, James T. Crosswell, H. L. Frisbie, S. E. Holtzman, S. M. Witt, W. H. Jenkins, John T. Wilson, J. B. Parsons, James A. Hoover, J. B. Baker.

DWIGHT.—Dwight, No. 626, organized May 17, 1887. Past Post Commanders: G. A. Seymour, E. F. Wright, C. W. Ayling, J. C. Lewis, James B. Parsons, John Buffham, Henry Fox, W. B. Brown, Henry Spellman.

FAIRBURY.—Aaron Weider, No. 75, organized March 25, 1880. Past Post Commanders: Emory Gregg, D. W. Hilsabeck, Rufus C. Huntoon, John Virgin, B. E. Robinson, John Zimmerman, A. H. Mundt, H. S. Eckhart, J. E. Lewis, A. F. Filley, J. H. Carter, Thomas Day.

CHATSWORTH.—E. C. Trask, No. 38, organized January 16, 1884. Past Post Commanders: G. H. Maines, J. E. Brown, Charles True, Stephen S. Hitch.

SAUNEMIN.—Saunemin, No. 486, organized October 17, 1884. Past Post Commanders: Ward Righter, Allen Mosier, W. W. Porter, T. M. Thornton, J. D. Palmer, H. P. Swan, A. Robinson, Louis Holloway, John Byrne.

CORNELL.—John H. Johnson, No. 769, organized February 14, 1905. Past Post Commanders: J. B. Cummings, H. M. Cornell, J. W. A. Lilly, R. E. Jacobs.

FORREST.—Forrest, No. 114, organized October 11, 1881. Past Post Commanders: W. M. Moulton, P. M. Hoyt, Fred Duckett, H. B. Watson, A. C. Cain, B. M. Bullard, Joseph Francis, W. D. Lee, W. H. Clow, M. C. Eignus.

ODELL.—Wightman, No. 163 (now disbanded). Past Post Commanders: James A. Hoover, M. J. Bosworth and W. F. Weed.

LONG POINT.—Long Point, No. 784, organized July 7, 1897. Past Post Commanders: W. P. Marshall, J. C. Huetson.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

PONTIAC.—T. Lyle Dickey, No. 5 organized October 13, 1884. Past Presidents: Elizabeth Blackmore, Eliza Torrance, Mary K. Holtzman, Sarah M. Bradford, Louise D. Scouller, Martha A. Gray, Malinda Hemstreet, Bessie Jenkins.

DWIGHT.—Dwight, No. 144, organized November 10, 1889. Past Presidents: Margaret Leach, Kate A. Dustin, Hattie A. Fox, Lizzie Huey, Lucie Lewis, Alice Howe.

COBNELL.—John H. Johnson, No. 72, organized April 4, 1906. Past Presidents: Elizabeth McVay, Alida Shackleton, Eliza Myers.

SONS OF VETERANS.

DWIGHT.—Dwight Camp, No. 270, organized July 16, 1889. Past Captains: W. T. Scott, Ernest D. Seymour, James E. Seabert, W. G. Dustin, J. K. Buffham, H. F. Boyer, A. A. Boyer, Orville Brown, Fred Mowbray.

LONG POINT.—A. Deedrick Camp, No. 35, organized April 15, 1898.

ARMY NURSES.—Mrs. Elizabeth Blackmore, nurse with Haughtaling's Battery, First Illinois Light Artillery from October, 1861, to August, 1862; Mrs. Addie Emery, nurse at general hospital at Jefferson, Ind. Commissioned August, 1863; honorably discharged, October, 1865. Both reside at Pontiac.

PONTIAC BIBLE SOCIETY.

The following report of the first Bible society organized in the county is taken from the original record book now in the possession of A. W. Cowan, one of the early settlers of Pontiac:

"At a meeting of the citizens of Pontiac held at the court house on the first day of September, A. D. 1851, for the purpose of organizing a Bible Society for the County of Livingston, State of Illinois, on motion of Rev. Mr. Day, C. H. Hart was called to the chair and Jerome P. Garner chosen secretary. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Day.

A motion was made by Mr. Syms to organize a county Bible society, to be called the Livingston County Bible Society, auxiliary to the American Bible Society.

"A constitution was then offered by Rev. Mr. Day and on motion was adopted.

"On motion of Mr. Day, a committee of three

was chosen to select persons for the necessary offices of the society. The committee reported the following named persons as officers:

For President.—Thomas G. McDowell.

For Vice Presidents.—C. H. Hart, M. Breckenridge and John Foster.

For Secretary.—Nelson Buck.

For Treasurer.—Samuel C. Ladd.

For Directors.—Henry Loveless, Willet S. Gray and Jerome P. Garner.

"Voted that the treasurer be authorized to procure the necessary books and pay for them out of any money in the treasury.

"Voted that the executor appoint suitable persons to organize local societies in the different parts of the county.

"On motion of Mr. Day, the meeting adjourned; meeting closed by prayer by Mr. Syms."

At a meeting held on Tuesday evening, September 2, 1851, the following proceedings were recorded:

"Voted that the Rev. Mr. Day act as our agent to canvass Livingston County.

"Voted that Samuel C. Ladd be appointed to draft resolutions explaining to the executive committee of the La Salle County Bible Society the reasons of the executive committee of the Livingston County Bible Society in appointing the Rev. Mr. Day as our agent," etc.

Resolutions were passed thanking the La Salle County Bible Society for the donation of \$50 worth of Bibles and Testaments.

There is no record in the book of any meeting of the society after the dates above mentioned until August 21, 1852, at which meeting Thomas G. McDowell, Nelson Buck, Jerome P. Garner, Samuel C. Ladd and Rev. Mr. Day were present. The only business transacted was the following report which was presented by the Rev. Mr. Day:

Bibles and Testaments sold, \$28.07; Bibles and Testaments given away, \$7.93; sold and given, \$36.00; number on hand, \$13.87; Bibles and Testaments paid for, \$22.17; Bibles and Testaments not paid for, \$5.90; subscriptions amount to, \$110.40; subscriptions paid, \$9.95; total cash received for Bibles and Testaments paid over to association, \$32.19; twenty-four days spent in canvassing, for which we allow \$1.00 per day, \$24.00; number of families canvassed, 348; number of inhabitants, 1,736; number of Bibles, 488; number of Testaments, 415; number of families without Bibles, 13; number

of families without Testaments, 26; number of families not having either, 39.

No more proceedings of the society were written in the book, and it is not known whether the society lasted very long after the meeting held on August 21st, but the report of the Rev. Alva Day shows at that time there was a healthy religious sentiment existing in the county.

Y. M. C. A., PONTIAC.

One of the buildings in which Pontiac citizens take delight, and which attracts much attention from visitors, is that of the Young Men's Christian Association of Pontiac, located at the corner of Main and Howard streets. The track of the Bloomington, Pontiac, and Joliet Electric Railroad passes in front of the building, the city hall is just across the street to the west, St. Mary's Catholic Church to the north, while the public library occupies the corner to the northwest.

The building itself is of Streator pressed brick faced with Joliet stone, and presents a most substantial appearance. It is two stories high with a good roomy basement, and covers a space sixty feet by one hundred feet.

In the basement is a swimming pool fifteen feet by forty feet, with a depth of water of four feet at one end and eight feet at the other. Here also are located two bath tubs and seven shower baths. Fifty lockers are provided for the use of the members of the association. Adjoining the rooms just mentioned and in the northeast corner of the basement is located the steam heating system of the institution. This plant also furnishes the heat for supplying warm water for the natatorium, baths and wash rooms.

The south side of the basement is given over to two excellent bowling alleys of regulation size.

Spacious reading and reception rooms occupy this front part of the first floor.

Here are arranged tables with an abundance of well-selected magazines and newspapers, and opportunity is afforded indulgence in such games as chess, checkers, dominoes and other similar amusements.

Comfortable chairs and settees are provided for members and visitors, and the association parlors are a favorite place for the meeting of friends for a social time, and for business engagements.

Just east of the reading room on the north side of the building are the offices of the General Secretary and the Physical Director so located that they may see and greet all who may enter.

On the south side is the association kitchen, where are prepared the refreshments served on social occasions.

The entire east end of the building is devoted to the gymnasium, which is admirably equipped for athletic purposes.

A gallery extends entirely around the gymnasium, which serves not only as a running track, but as a place from which to view games of basket ball, indoor base ball, and all other forms of athletics.

Under the direction of Mr. Roy Horton, the first physical director of the association, considerable interest was awakened in this feature of the association work, and this interest has not only been maintained, but widened under the capable direction of Mr. L. A. Pottinger, the present deservedly popular physical director.

At the present time over one-third of the membership are taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the physical department.

The greater part of the second floor is occupied by the dormitory rooms—consisting of fourteen well-appointed rooms together with tub baths.

These rooms are well lighted, well ventilated, comfortably furnished, and being conveniently located are in great demand by young men of moderate means, who desire to enjoy comfortable quarters under congenial and wholesome surroundings.

Facing Main street on this floor, are three fair sized rooms, where the educational and Bible classes and special meetings are held.

For religious meetings these class rooms are all thrown into one room and do satisfactory service as a chapel and lecture room.

From the beginning the educational classes have been under the immediate direction of Mr. W. W. McCulloch, whose ability and faithful work as an educator have been most helpful to those who have turned their attention to this feature of the association work.

The religious meetings held Sunday afternoons have been under the direction of the general secretary. These meetings have been most interesting and helpful, and have contributed

much to the development of the members along spiritual lines.

The building was dedicated May 7, 1906, by Rev. William A. Sunday at the close of a series of services begun on May 3.

From the program of the Dedicatory Exercises, we take the following:

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The revival services conducted by Rev. William A. Sunday in Pontiac, in the late fall of 1904, resulted in the conversion of more than one thousand persons, and the Christian people of the city were confronted with the question as how best to surround the young people (and especially the young men) with the most helpful influences. Many were convinced that a Young Men's Christian Association, or some similar organization, was imperatively needed. Among these was Miss Anne Lord, who felt called upon to present the importance of such work to Mrs. Harriet Humiston. Mrs. Humiston had for some time been seriously considering how she could best invest a portion of her means for the benefit of the community, and the presentation made by Miss Lord and Rev. Mr. Sunday, who had been called in to advise on the subject, appealed strongly to her. After getting such information as she could, she took the matter under consideration and shortly thereafter authorized the announcement that she would give \$20,000 for the erection of a Young Men's Christian Association building, providing the citizens of Pontiac would furnish a suitable site and equip the building. Subscriptions were accordingly taken for this purpose and on December 6th, 1904, under the direction of A. M. Bruner, of the State Association, a temporary organization was effected with C. E. Legg, W. F. Van Buskirk, A. L. Cook, G. D. Lockie, H. J. Clark, Robert Sass, W. H. Church and C. R. Tombaugh as members of the Provisional Committee. The Young Men's Christian Association of Pontiac was permanently organized on February 16th, 1905, and the members of the Provisional Committee, together with A. F. Mette, A. H. East, E. H. Phillips and E. M. Johnson, were elected directors of the association.

The officers from the beginning have been: President, C. E. Legg; vice-president, G. D.

Lockie; secretary, H. J. Clark, treasurer, C. R. Tombaugh.

G. W. Hartley was selected as general secretary on December 28th, 1904, and entered upon his duties January 7th, 1907. Temporary quarters were soon thereafter opened in the Tate building on North Mill street; reading matter was provided; educational Bible classes organized; a boy's cadet corps formed and such other work undertaken as was deemed advisable under the circumstances.

Religious meetings for men have been held in the city hall each Sunday afternoon and for several months similar services for boys have been conducted alternately in the Baptist, Methodist, Christian and Presbyterian churches.

After considerable discussion the R. W. Babcock property on North Main street was selected as the location of the association building and R. A. Young was chosen as architect. The general contract for the building was let to John H. Michel; that for the brick and stone work to Henry Davies, and for the plumbing and heating to G. H. Miller.

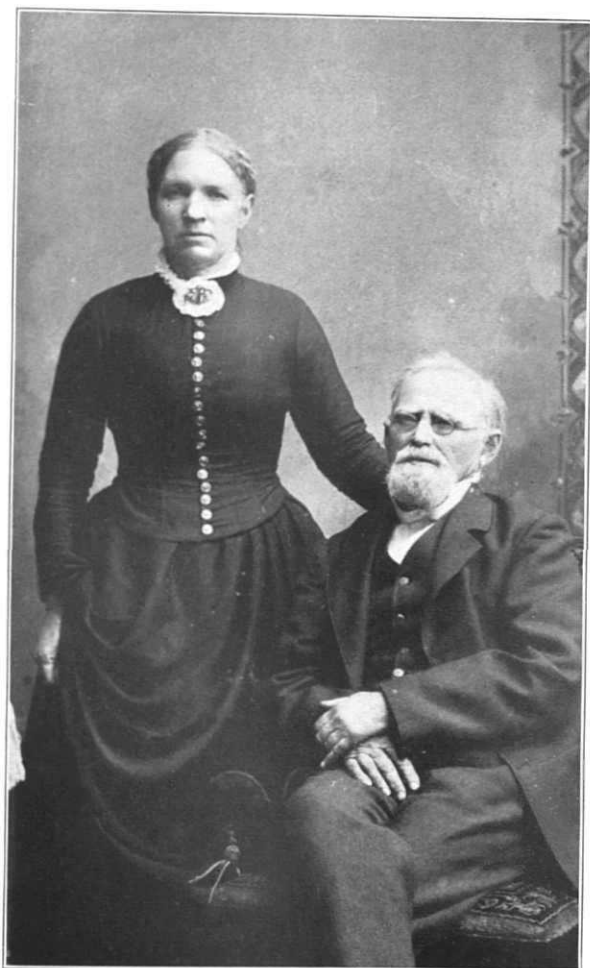
The corner stone was laid August 17th, 1905. The cost of the lot, building and needed equipment has been approximately \$40,000, a sum considerably greater than the first estimates. Mrs. Humiston has donated several thousand dollars in addition to her first subscription.

CHANGE OF SECRETARIES.

After being connected with the association about two years, and having labored earnestly in its organization, General Secretary Hartley tendered his resignation to take effect February 15, 1907. After mature deliberation the board of directors selected as his successor Mr. O. E. McLaughlin of Galva, Ill., who entered upon his duties immediately upon the retirement of his predecessor, and who has since served the association most acceptably.

Mr. McLaughlin is thoroughly in love with his work, he believes in young men, and has a happy faculty of winning their confidence and esteem and of impressing them with the importance of Y. M. C. A. work, as it relates to them individually.

The officers remain the same as at the first organization, except as to the General Secretary.



J. J. Church

Mary A. Church

The present directors are:

C. E. Legg	G. T. Moulds
S. A. Rathbun	E. M. Johnson
E. A. Jamison	P. O. Enslow
H. J. Clark	C. R. Tombaugh
R. R. Wallace	J. M. Holferty
G. D. Lockie	A. F. Mette

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

(PONTIAC.)

Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M. was instituted in October, 1858, the charter members being Aaron Weider, J. R. Wolgamott, William Manlove, Samuel B. Norton, S. C. Ladd, A. E. Harding, I. T. Whittemore and George P. Olmstead. The first officers were: Master, Aaron Weider; Senior Warden, S. C. Ladd; Junior Warden, William Manlove; Secretary, A. E. Harding. Their present quarters are located on the third floor of the Rathbun building. The meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, I. O. O. F. was instituted in October, 1858. The charter was granted to Rufus W. Babcock, Jacob Streamer, Benjamin W. Gray, John A. Fellows, Ferdinand H. Bond. In 1870, their lodge room was destroyed by fire. Their present building is a brick structure, thirty by eighty feet, three stories high. The first story is used for a store room, the second for other secret societies, and the third is their lodge room.

Vermillion Encampment, No. 54, I. O. O. F. was instituted in 1864, the charter members being George Wolgamott, Alexander Hinsey, J. B. McCleary, Ferdinand H. Bond, Peter Johnson, W. W. Stinnett, and others.

Pontiac Chapter, No. 310, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized August 6, 1895, the charter members being J. E. Colburne, George E. Warren, Fred Duckett, J. J. Pearson, G. W. Patton, L. B. Stinson, Lora Dunn, Mesdames Mary Duckett, Fannie Colburne, Kate Kay, Minerva Linscott, Mary E. Pearson, Flora Patton, Eliza Stinson, Cora Scrivens, Margaret Swygert, Misses Jeanette Duckett, Effie Dunn, Elva Swygert. The Chapter has a membership of 124. Mrs. Mary E. Pearson was the first Worthy Matron.

(FAIRBURY.)

Tarbolton Lodge, No. 351, A. F. & A. M. was instituted October 3, 1860. The charter members

were Aaron Weider, Henry L. Marsh, J. B. Hulsey, O. P. Ross, S. C. Roberts, Robert Rumbold and Henry Remington, Mr. Rumbold, now of Chatsworth, is the only surviving charter member. The first meeting was held in Mr. Remington's house. The lodge hall was burned March 29, 1875. They later built a two-room two-story brick building.

Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M. was instituted at Fairbury, October 6, 1866, J. W. Peck was the first High Priest and Henry Remington the first Secretary.

St. Paul Commandery, No. 36, Knights Templar, was chartered at Fairbury, October 26, 1870. Dr. J. J. Wright was the first Eminent Commander and John Zimmerman the first Recorder.

Livingston Lodge, No. 290, I. O. O. F. of Fairbury, was organized August 15, 1860. The charter members were John F. Blackburn, John J. Young, W. H. Strevelle, John T. Bowen and John Zimmerman. The lodge has the finest building in the county.

Fairbury Encampment, No. 71, I. O. O. F. of Fairbury, was chartered October 8, 1867.

(ODELL.)

Odell Lodge, No. 401, A. F. & A. M. was organized October 5, 1864. The charter members were Z. Supplee, E. G. Putnam and L. H. Cordry, who were the first three principal officers. Odell Chapter was organized October 7, 1870, the charter members being Z. Supplee, A. E. Gammon, John E. Williams, A. P. Wright, A. P. Dunlap, James Martin, C. H. Ellenwood, R. G. Morton, J. Ford, Charles Finefield, E. Williams, A. G. Goodspeed, J. B. Garwood, H. H. Hill and R. B. Harrington.

Odell Lodge, No. 464, I. O. O. F. was instituted October 10, 1871, by N. J. Pillsbury of Pontiac, deputy grand master. The charter members were James A. Hunter, E. P. Utley, Jeremiah Clay, I. H. Scobell and W. Dalley, B. F. Pound was the first Noble Grand.

(CHATSWORTH.)

Chatsworth Lodge, No. 539, A. F. & A. M. was organized October 1, 1867. The charter members were D. W. Hunt, Charles L. Wells, W. H. Jones, E. L. Nelson, George R. Wells, D. E. Shaw, E. A. Simmons, A. E. Anway, James Davis, J. H. Dalton, Ira W. Trask and J. S. McElhiney. D. R. Wells was the first Master.

Chatsworth Encampment, No. 339, I. O. O.

F. was instituted October 9, 1866. The charter members were Peter Shroyer, G. W. Blackwell, Arthur Orr, M. A. Wheeler, T. L. Mathews and H. J. Roberts, Livingston Encampment, No. 123. I. O. O. F., was chartered May 31, 1871. These two lodges have surrendered their charters.

(CORNELL.)

Cornell Lodge, No. —, A. F. & A. M. was instituted in December, 1877, the charter being granted to John P. Guernsey, H. M. Cornell, Eben Norton, J. J. Reeder, A. K. Brower, H. H. Brower, Philip Arman, I. P. Santee, John Green and H. Bolt.

Beacon Lodge, No. 618, I. O. O. F. was instituted June 23, 1876. In 1907, the members erected a two-story brick building, the upper floor of which is used for lodge purposes.

(SAUNEMIN.)

Saunemin Lodge, No. 738, A. F. & A. M. was organized October 23, 1875, and chartered October 11, 1876. The first officers were: W. W. Porter, Master; Samuel McGoodwin, Senior Warden; Thomas W. Chandler, Junior Warden; R. F. Griffing, Secretary. This lodge when organized was called Sullivan Center Lodge.

(DWIGHT.)

Livingston Lodge, No. 371, A. F. & A. M. was organized March 1, 1862, and received its charter October 2, 1862. The first officers were: E. N. Jenks, Worshipful Master; W. L. Gross, Senior Warden; J. W. Rockwell, Junior Warden; C. S. Newell, Secretary.

Dwight Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F. was instituted May 22, 1873, and is probably the richest and strongest society in Dwight. The first Noble Grand was C. C. Gilbert, and M. W. Tambling, Secretary. In October of the same year a charter was issued to the following charter members: C. C. Gilbert, W. S. Sims, M. W. Tambling, John L. Clark, Thomas Weldon, Hugh Stevens and E. P. Utley.

Dwight Chapter, No. 166, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized October 31, 1890, with thirteen charter members.

Prairie Queen Lodge, No. 370, Daughters of Rebekah, was organized January 29, 1895.

Pacific Encampment, No. 126, I. O. O. F., was instituted October 16, 1880, the charter members

being Henry Fox, J. J. Gore, Alexander McKay, Benjamin Wait (by cards); W. H. Ketcham, Sr., J. C. Lewis, Martin Wilks, Moses Wilkinson, Thomas Liddiscott, Charles Stevens, M. J. Cullen, John Leach, Dewitt Scutt, W. H. Conrad (by initiation).

Hebron Lodge, No. 175, Knights of Pythias, was instituted January 18, 1888, with twenty-five charter members, Eugene Flagler was the first Chancellor Commander.

(LONG POINT.)

Long Point Lodge, No. 552, A. F. & A. M. was organized in 1866. This order was organized at Ancona and was known as Ancona Lodge. The lodge was removed to Long Point, in 1873, and in 1877, its name was changed to its present one. Abel Bradley was the first Worshipful Master.

(FORREST.)

Forrest Lodge, No. 614, A. F. & A. M. was chartered October 5, 1869, William D. Lee was the first Master.

Good Will Lodge, No. 379, I. O. O. F. was instituted January 9, 1869, by J. W. Ellis, Grand Master, and Samuel Willard, Grand Secretary. John A. Fulwiler was the first noble grand and Stephen A. Hoyt the first Secretary.

Modern Woodmen of America—Camps of this order are located as follows: Pontiac, No. 5; Fairbury, No. 6; Ancona, No. 1835; Blackstone, No. 1845; Campus, No. 2619; Chatsworth, No. No. 1829; Cornell, No. 1664; Cullom, No. 1886; Dwight, No. 1777; Emington, No. 1361; Flanagan, No. 3682; Forrest, No. 1046; Graymont, No. 3617; Long Point, No. 1842; Nevada, No. 4070; Odell, No. 1673; Saunemin, No. 1105; Strawn, No. 3000.

Knights of Pythias: Chatsworth, No. 264; Forrest, No. 154; Long Point, No. 534; Pontiac, No. 118; Strawn, No. 458.

Court of Honor: Chatsworth, No. 732; Cornell, No. 528; Dwight, No. 508; Fairbury, No. 206; Odell, No. 454; Pontiac, No. 158.

Odd Fellows: Ancona, No. 762; Strawn, No. 705; Cullom, No. —, Daughters of Rebekah, Cornell, No. 388; Fairbury, No. 112; Forrest, No. 416; Odell, No. 442; Pontiac, No. 41; Saunemin, No. 364.

The Royal Neighbors have lodges at Dwight, Pontiac and Fairbury.



M. B. Blandon

CHAPTER XVIII.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

FIRST COUNTY FAIR HELD AT PONTIAC IN 1856—
LATER FAIRS AND CHANGES—COUNTY FAIR
SYSTEM ABANDONED IN 1878—FAIRBURY UNION
AGRICULTURAL BOARD ORGANIZED IN 1876—FIRST
OFFICERS—FAIRBURY FAIRS CONTINUED TO THE
PRESENT TIME—BELLE PRAIRIE AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY ORGANIZED IN 1883—FIRST BOARD OF
DIRECTORS—FAIRS DISCONTINUED IN 1903 BUT
RESUMED IN 1907.

The first county fair in Livingston county was held in the month of October, 1856, in the court-house square in Pontiac. Previous to this time, however, small exhibits were made annually in the court-house and square by the leading farmers adjoining the village of Pontiac, the streets adjoining the square being used for the display of live stock, while the square proper was used for the display of agricultural implements, products of the soil, etc. These fairs were managed by what few merchants then were in the village at the time and no premiums or diplomas were given, and at the close of the day the hat was passed around to collect money to pay expenses. The interest in these small events grew every year and finally, in 1856, a meeting of the leading citizens of the county was held at the court-house for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society. The meeting was well attended and an organization to be known as the Livingston County Agricultural Society was perfected by electing William J. Murphy, president; M. D. Edgington, Dr. C. B. Ostrander, and Samuel McCormick, vice-presidents; Otis Richardson, secretary; and James M. Perry, treasurer.

The fair under this organization was also held in the court-house square, there being a large attendance and a great deal of interest manifested. Only diplomas were given this year, but the following year the society was more thoroughly organized, a constitution and by-laws adopted, together with a set of rules and regulations.

Five acres of ground were secured on the south side of the river, just west of where the

residence of Samuel Herbert now stands. The ground was fenced, and buildings suitable for the display of machinery, household articles, etc., were erected.

Samuel C. Ladd was secretary, and the fair was held on October 7 and 8, 1857. Both days were beautiful, both overhead and underfoot, as could be wished, giving life and activity to animal and vegetable nature. A large concourse of people was present, some few from abroad, but mostly citizens of Livingston County, and much interest was manifested.

The awarding committee on cattle consisted of Isaac Wilson, M. D. Edgington, Moses Allen, W. R. Tanner and William Manlove. Exhibits in this department were made by W. Hallick, G. W. Guthrie, A. L. Hinman, Walter Cornell, Joseph Morrison, Joel Anderson, F. Umphenour, Robert Aeri, William Manlove, James Nelson, Henry Hill and Aaron Weider.

Exhibits of horses, mules and colts were made by Hiram Young, J. S. Gilbreath, D. Barrickman, M. Spence, R. Smith, J. Mills, John Morton, John Wolgamott, E. B. Titus, M. D. Edgington, D. M. Breckenridge, Thomas Wilson, James Bright, S. Vanster, John Foster, Thomas Baker, Darius Johnson, William A. Myer, J. Hoobler, John St. John, James Cox and Joel Anderson.

Those who participated in equestrianism were the Misses Setzer, Rebecca Rockwood and Louise Cannon. Miss Rockwood secured the first prize.

Only two exhibits of poultry were made, these being shown by John Milham and Mr. Byes.

Farm products were shown by C. B. Ostrander, C. G. Udell, Decatur Veatch, Benjamin Walton, Daniel Rockwood, O. P. McDowell, Samuel Herbert, Otis Richardson, Isaac Wilson, W. Guthrie, D. Chapin, Albert Moon, John Johnson, James Bright, J. W. Boyer, John Morton, E. B. Titus and R. Lawrence.

Exhibits of needlework were made by Mrs. C. U. Bennett, Mrs. Z. N. Nettleton, Mrs. E. R. Maples, Mrs. Mary E. Ladd, Miss S. G. Powell, M. H. Peterson, Mrs. I. G. Whittemore, Miss Mary Murphy, Miss Aldin, Miss Stafford, Miss S. Nichols, Miss H. Downing, Mrs. C. G. Udell, Miss Alden and Miss W. Thomas.

In the floral department were exhibits by Mrs. Mary Tracy, Mrs. William Manlove, Mrs. S. L. Manker, Miss Albina Russell, Mrs. Nettleton, Miss Margaret Ellis, Mrs. C. B. Bennett and Mrs. Dr. Thomas Croswell.

The next county fair was held in Pontiac Oc-

tober 6 and 7, 1858. William Manlove was president; Austin Hensless, vice-president; Samuel C. Ladd, secretary; Robert Aeri, treasurer. The board of directors consisted of William T. Russell, James W. Remick, Jerome P. Garner, Edwin R. Maples and William Perry.

The next fair was held in Pontiac on September 28, 29 and 30, 1859, it having been lengthened out one day. S. L. Manker was elected president; William Perry, vice-president; B. P. Babcock, secretary; John Dehner, treasurer. The following directors were chosen: Dr. C. B. Ostrander, Hickory Point; G. M. Bedinger, Che-noa; T. W. Brydia, Five-Mile Grove; M. B. Patty, Pontiac; Thomas Mills, Long Point; William B. Lyon, Reading, and Benjamin Walton, Fairbury.

During the session of this fair, the first exhibit in the speed ring was made and consisted of a race between Leander Utley's stallion, Pittsfield Black Hawk, and Dr. John W. Youman's mare, Jenny Lind. They were first started off together, but after two or three rounds, the drivers commenced taking the "short cut" on one another. The judges, of course, could make no decision as to their relative swiftness, under such circumstances, so they decided to time the animals. The mare got the first premium, having out-trotted the stallion by two seconds. The sporting fraternity were all on tip-toe over this event, and in future years horse racing was introduced and continued with success until the fairs in Pontiac were abandoned.

The county fair of 1860 was held on the 18th, 19th and 20th of September. The directors had greatly improved the grounds by purchasing an additional two acres, and erecting buildings more suitable for the display of products from the farm. Judge Starr delivered an address, after which the society met and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, S. L. Manker; vice-president, G. M. Bedinger; treasurer, John Dehner; secretary, John Wolgamott. Four additional fairs were held at these grounds, and during the summer and fall of 1862, the grounds were used as a camp for the One Hundred Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Regiment, then organizing for the Civil War.

In 1865, the organization purchased a strip of land adjoining the city cemetery on the north, and the buildings and fences were moved to that location, a half-mile track was laid out, and

other substantial improvements made. Annual meetings of the society were held every year thereafter until 1878, when the grounds were disposed of and a tract of fifty-five acres east of the city limits purchased. That year, the Livingston County Agricultural Society changed to the Livingston County Agricultural Board, in compliance with a law passed by the Legislature in 1872. It was decided to form a stock company, and accordingly one thousand shares of stock were disposed of at \$10 each, creating a fund of \$10,000.

Before the location was changed, however, interest in the annual fair of the society had commenced to wane, and this step was taken in order that the people would become more interested, and notwithstanding the fact that the new board had secured one of the finest locations in the county and had paid out thousands of dollars for improvements, the next fair was a failure, the receipts not paying the expenses, and many of the exhibitors went home without securing their premiums. The grounds were disposed of and the corporation dissolved, and Pontiac, as a fair town, had passed out of existence.

FAIRBURY FAIR.

The Fairbury Union Agricultural Board was incorporated January 19, 1876. It was organized and officers duly elected on March 25, as follows: President, John Virgin; vice-president, John G. Steers; secretary, Smith Olney; treasurer, C. C. Bartlett. The first board of directors consisted of Robert Elmore, John F. Myers, Henry Kingman, Benjamin Cumpston, Daniel R. Potter, Henry Skinner, D. L. Murdock, Owen Finnegan, Stephen Herr, R. E. Norman, George W. Myers, James F. Earnheart and Jacob Bailey. The first exhibition was held in September of that year, and continued four days. The grounds consist of twenty-one acres of land, located just across the south line of the city limits, and were purchased at an aggregate cost of \$2,800. Although the fair has been conducted with the strictest economy during the past thirty-two years, the society has never been entirely free from debt. The original grand stand and stalls have been torn down and modern ones erected in their stead. The trees which were planted on the grounds in an early day have now grown to large dimensions, and afford ample shade. The fair is each year attended daily by thousands of people, special trains being run for the occasion.

It is the only fair in the county at the present time. Hiett B. Taylor is president and G. B. Gordon, secretary.

BELLE PRAIRIE FAIR.

The Belle Prairie Agricultural Society was organized April 11, 1883. The first set of directors were William Brooks, S. W. Vawter, Malcolm McNabb, S. E. Kent, H. L. Terpening, Elhanan Fitzgerald and Samuel Weeks. Ira C. Pratt was president and Wright M. Crum, secretary. This fair was held for several years in the grove adjoining the residence of Ira C. Pratt, and was attended yearly by thousands of people from this and adjoining counties.

Although being called a fair, it was more in the nature of a family gathering of the residents of Belle Prairie township, who took dinners with them and had a spread, to which everybody was invited. Some prominent citizen of the county delivered an address. The fair lasted two days, the first day being devoted to making entries. No admission fee was charged, the expenses being defrayed by the residents of the township. The premiums awarded consisted of ribbons. The fair continued until 1903, when it was abandoned, but was revived in 1907.

CHAPTER XIX.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

NOTED PEOPLE WHO HAVE VISITED LIVINGSTON COUNTY—THE PRINCE OF WALES (KING EDWARD VII. OF ENGLAND) A VISITOR IN 1860—ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S SEVERAL VISITS—LINCOLN LECTURE AT PONTIAC—PASSING OF FUNERAL TRAIN TO SPRINGFIELD—STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, OWEN LOVEJOY, ROBERT J. INGERSOLL AND OTHER NOTED VISITORS—GEN. GRANT A GUEST AT PONTIAC IN 1880—WILLIAM J. BRYAN AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT COMERS OF A LATER PERIOD.

King Edward VII, the present King of England, paid Pontiac a short visit on Wednesday, September 26, 1860. The king at that time was a young man and bore the title of Lord Renfrew. His Highness spent five days near Dwight on a

hunting trip and was on his way to St. Louis. The prince and his party were aboard a special train on the Alton road, and it was announced the day previous that the party would pass through Pontiac at 8 o'clock the next morning. The entire population of the village congregated at the depot to pay their respects to the future king of England, and he was the recipient of a splendid ovation at their hands. As the train stopped for wood and water at this point, the assembled multitude had the pleasure of gazing at the future king of England for five minutes, as he appeared on the rear platform of the train and bowed his acknowledgments to the cheering throng that had congregated. The Prince's easy and modest appearance predisposed everyone in his favor, and quite a few are living in Pontiac today who remember the occasion very well.

LINCOLN'S VISITS.

Abraham Lincoln, perhaps the greatest man of our time, visited Pontiac on three different occasions. The occasion of Mr. Lincoln's first visit was the trial of a lawsuit in the early '40s, and the memorable occasion, together with the date, has long been lost sight of. There is now no one living who remembers the event, but it has been handed down from father to son, and to this day is often referred to by the early settlers of Pontiac with pride, from the fact that their ancestors once had the pleasure of meeting the martyred President on his visit here at that time.

The next time the President visited Pontiac, it was not of his own choosing. During the month of February, 1855, while journeying from Chicago to his home town of Springfield, over the Chicago & Alton, the train on which he was traveling became snow-bound just this side of where the village of Cayuga now stands. When the train crew became convinced that all efforts to proceed further were useless, a messenger was sent forward to Pontiac to inform the agent of their predicament. The agent at once went among the citizens with the information, the result being that enough volunteers were secured who offered their services, together with their teams and sleds, to bring the belated passengers to Pontiac. The storm that was raging at the time was one of the worst in the annals of the county, and the suffering was great. The day was intensely cold, with a strong wind blowing over the prairies from the northwest. The res-

cuing party was made up as quickly as possible and soon started for the relief of the snow-bound train. After much difficulty, every person aboard was placed in the sleds, being wrapped up in blankets from the beds of the citizens of Pontiac. Upon the arrival, the passengers were distributed around among the settlers, to be cared for the best they could until the blockade was raised. Mr. Lincoln and several others were assigned to the home of John McGregor, the first attorney to locate in Pontiac, and who lived then in a new house at the corner of West Madison and North Oak streets. There Mr. Lincoln, who was then little known to fame, spent the time until the blockade was raised, and he was allowed to proceed to his home in Springfield. Before taking his departure, however, he proffered Mrs. McGregor money for his keep, but this was positively refused. As Mr. Lincoln and the other guests were leaving the hospitable home for the depot to take the train for their several homes, they were accompanied to the gate by Mr. McGregor's two daughters, the Misses Emma and Elizabeth. Reaching down into his pocket, Mr. Lincoln secured two gold dollars, and placing them in the hands of the thoroughly surprised young ladies, passed through the gate on his way to the depot, not, however, until he had bade them a hearty good-bye.

LINCOLN'S THIRD AND LAST VISIT ALIVE.

One of the first societies to be organized in Pontiac was the Young Men's Literary Association. The association met in the old court house and organized in the early '50s, and the organization was kept up long after the Civil War. It was composed of young men who would meet and debate on subjects then prominently before the people and give literary and musical entertainments. Their debates and entertainments were about the only recreation that was elevating in those days, and besides being well attended, they were very instructive.

The association was composed always of men of education and refinement and included in time all of the professional men in Pontiac. Many men who afterwards became famous throughout the United States have appeared under the auspices of the Young Men's Literary Association of Pontiac, but the most famous of these was Abraham Lincoln, who appeared under its direction on Friday evening, January 27, 1860, at the Presbyterian Church.

The Hon. Jason W. Strevell, who was a prominent young attorney of Pontiac at that time, as well as being engaged in the hardware business, was president of the association at that time, introduced Mr. Lincoln and entertained him during his stay at his home at the corner of West Livingston and North Oak streets. It was totally unknown to the association up to noon of the evening of the lecture that Mr. Lincoln intended coming to Pontiac, but being in Bloomington, and having previously received two invitations to lecture here, Mr. Lincoln thought this a favorable opportunity to fulfill it. He telegraphed Mr. Strevell that he would be on hand that evening. Notwithstanding the little time intervening (some five or six hours) until the lecture was delivered, a crowded house greeted the distinguished speaker.

By many, the lecture delivered by Mr. Lincoln was a severe disappointment, but before he started, by way of introduction, he said that he was very, very tired; that he had just returned from the East, visiting New York and Boston, and had been on the road continuously and was worn out talking on political subjects and attending banquets in his honor, which probably accounts for the way his lecture was received by his audience. And, then, too, Mr. Lincoln never mentioned the great question then confronting the American people. His subject was what might be termed a medley—a variety of topics, mostly of a philosophic nature, being treated. The whole thing was new to the people present, but the ideas conveyed by the lecture were couched in simple and beautiful language, so clear that no difficulty was experienced in comprehending them.

In conversing with one of the early settlers of Pontiac, who was present at the lecture, and who was a young man of professional ability, he stated the matter thus clearly, and his remarks on that occasion are herewith given in full:

"Fault was found with the lecture by some of the literary critics about town, they contending that little originality, if any at all, was contained in it. In other words, the critics say, in so many words, that Lincoln spent one hour in telling what they knew before. It certainly follows that they must have pondered on these self-same ideas, else how could they know that they were not original. The amount of the matter is just this—a more satisfactory subject, doubtless, could have been selected—one that



Mr. Carey

would have suited us all much better. But while this is true, no unprejudiced listener will deny that the manner in which he treated the subject matter in hand was well worthy of Mr. Lincoln. We are all of us very prone to expect that when a man of Mr. Lincoln's reputation spoke on any subject whatever, he would carry us completely away. We should reflect that new ideas are not discovered every hour, they are not the creation of a day, nor a month, nor a year; and there are few men today, even in one of their most brilliant and captivating lectures, can advance half a dozen original ideas. This is quite noticeable in Pontiac every year at the annual gathering to listen to the distinguished speakers who appear here under the direction of the Pontiac Chautauqua Association. This difficulty can readily be recognized by us all, when we consider our own limited knowledge. How many of us, and especially how many of those who so sharply criticised Mr. Lincoln's lecture, even throughout our whole life time, promulgate a single new idea. We are too much inclined to find fault with the productions of others, without considering our own diminutive intellectual attainments. Let us consider but for a moment how little we ourselves know, and we will not be half so quick in detecting the deficiencies of others."

After the lecture, Mr. Lincoln was tendered a reception at the home of Mr. Strevell, and many of the audience took advantage of this and proceeded to his residence, one block and a half west of the church, and met Mr. Lincoln personally. Mr. Lincoln remained here until midnight of the 27th, when he took the train for his home in Springfield. In less than four months from the time Mr. Lincoln delivered his lecture in Pontiac he was nominated for President of the United States by the Republican convention in session in Chicago, on May 19, 1860.

The news of the assassination of President Lincoln was received in Pontiac with feelings of abject horror. Never in the history of Pontiac was there such universal mourning. True, most all of the male population of the village were in the army, but their wives and children remained, and when word came that the special train bearing the body would pass through Pontiac on the afternoon of May 2, 1865, business was entirely suspended, schools were dismissed, and the entire population of the village and of the surrounding country marched to the Alton

depot to pay their last respects. After remaining at the depot for about two hours, word came over the wire that the funeral train would not leave Chicago until 9 p. m., and the assemblage broke up and wended their way homeward. However, when the special train bearing the body of the martyred President arrived in Pontiac at midnight, there was a large gathering at the depot, as there was at nearly every station between Chicago and Springfield, giving evidence of his hold upon the heart of the nation and the universal sorrow which his revolting assassination had produced.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.

While conducting his campaign for the United States Senatorship throughout the State of Illinois in 1858, the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas paid Pontiac a visit, delivering one of his characteristic addresses from a stand erected in the court house yard. It was on Thursday, August 19, 1858. In the morning, the weather was stormy and bid fair to throw "cold water" on the grand reception which the "Little Giant" was to receive. Notwithstanding this fact, a large crowd gathered in the court house and proceeded to the depot to welcome Mr. Douglas. After being received at the depot by his friends, he was escorted to the stand in front of the court house from which he was to speak. To the Hon. A. E. Harding, then one of the leading young lawyers of Pontiac, and who had just arrived here the year previous, was given the honor of introducing the senator, which he did in a few well-chosen remarks. The champion of popular sovereignty then stepped forward and was greeted with vociferous applause by the immense gathering in front of him. The address was well received by his followers here and was about the same as that delivered in his tour of the state. During the delivery of his speech, Senator Douglass thrice interrupted, once by W. G. McDowell and twice by Philip Cook, then editor of the Sentinel. The Senator by way of introduction stated that anyone in the audience was privileged to ask him questions and he would give them answers the best he knew how. When the senator was about half through with his address, Mr. McDowell stepped upon the platform and read from a paper which he held in his hand, the following questions:

"You say in your speech at Freeport that the people of a territory have the power to exclude

slavery by non-action. Do you mean by excluding slavery they have, through their territorial legislature, the power to declare that slaves brought in voluntarily by their masters, shall, by that act, become free? If not, how can they exclude slavery; and if so, how will that tally with the supreme court decision?"

The Senator, in replying to Mr. McDowell, gave him a severe castigation, and that gentleman at once took his seat and remained silent throughout the delivery of the speech. Seeing that Mr. McDowell did not care to ask any more questions, Mr. Cook stepped upon the platform and propounded the following:

"If a person holds a slave in a territory by virtue of the Constitution of the United States, in which there are no 'police regulations' enforcing his right to hold such property, and that slave goes into a free state, can he be recovered as a fugitive slave, under the provisions of the fugitive slave law?"

To this question, the senator answered: "Yes, sir; he can be recaptured under the fugitive slave law!"

The Senator then paid his respects to Mr. Cook, calling him an "Abolitionist; that he was in the habit of going around lecturing in church basements, making Abolition harangues, after the fashion of Owen Lovejoy and other pin-cushion orators.

Notwithstanding the severe drubbing Mr. Cook received at the hands of Senator Douglas, he still occupied the platform, and after the applause had subsided, stepped forward and propounded the following to the senator:

"Would not the spirit of the Dred Scott decision annul all the acts of the territorial legislatures in case they enacted laws unfriendly to the holding of slaves in a territory, while a territory?"

But the Senator refused to be interrupted further and, amid the hissing and cat-calls of the Senator's many admirers present, Mr. Cook retired from the platform.

Senator Douglas made a good impression on the people of Pontiac and surrounding country by his able address, for his admirers here at that time were many, but sentiment in those days was rapidly changing. Although he failed to secure an endorsement at the hands of the voters of Livingston County in the election of 1858 by a vote of 1,001 to 789, in favor of Abraham Lincoln, in the election two years afterwards, when he ran against Mr. Lincoln for the presidency,

the vote of the county stood 1,475 for Lincoln, while Senator Douglas received 1,088, showing that the Senator and the principles he stood for were endorsed by many of our citizens.

When the reception committee met Senator Douglas at the Alton train, he refused to ride in a carriage, which had been provided by the reception committee, but instead walked up Madison street surrounded by his hundreds of admirers.

Senator Douglas again visited Pontiac on May 21, 1861. While traveling over the Alton, word was received, in advance of his coming, and a request was forwarded to him stating that the people of Pontiac would again be pleased to hear him, if for only a few minutes. Mr. Douglas replied that he would be pleased to comply with the request, and accordingly word was sent broadcast, and when the train arrived the Senator was welcomed by a very large crowd. He spoke but a short while from the rear platform of the car, and complained then of feeling ill. When he reached Chicago he was taken to the Clifton house, from the balcony of which two days later he delivered his last address. After this address he was taken suddenly and severely ill and took to his bed from which he never arose, dying on the 3rd day of June, 1861, just two weeks after his visit to Pontiac.

OWEN LOVEJOY.

Owen Lovejoy, one of the organizers of the Republican party, and one of the most pronounced Abolitionists of his time, delivered an address in the court house in Pontiac on Tuesday, September 15, 1858, before a large and appreciative audience. It was during the campaign of that year and Mr. Lovejoy, having been nominated by the Republicans as their candidate for Congress in this (then the Third) district, was here advocating his cause. He was such a pronounced Abolitionist that there were many in this county who called themselves Republicans who did not vote for him. But he was an orator and for three mortal hours held the audience spell-bound, now laughing, now crying, then calm, then again fired up with indignation at the wrongs which freedom was made to suffer at the hands of that worst of all despotism, American slavery. From Republicans on an early day, who heard the address delivered by Lovejoy on this occasion, all agree in saying that it was the best speech ever delivered in Pontiac, with the one exception of



W. H. Cleary

that delivered by Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll a few years later. Captain Morgan L. Payne, who was marshal of the day when Senator Douglas visited Pontiac one month previous to this time, acted in a like capacity on the day Mr. Lovejoy spoke. Captain Payne was one of the most pronounced Democrats of his time, but believed in fair play.

Congressman Lovejoy again visited Pontiac on Monday, October 9, 1860, the occasion being the last grand rally in the county before the election. This was the largest assemblage of people ever congregated in Livingston County up to that time. Delegations of "Wide Awakes" were present from every township in the county, also from Lexington and Pleasant Hill in McLean County. Douglas J. Lyon, Job E. Dye and William T. Russell were the marshals of the day, while Edwin R. Maples was captain of the Pontiac Wide-Awakes. The county delegations came in wagons across the prairies. William T. Garner was marshal of the Rocks Creek delegation, D. W. Young for Ocoya, while the Pleasant Ridge, Avoca, Oliver's Grove and Fairbury delegations came in under command of Captain Macy. The Dwight Wide-Awakes, under the command of Captain Case, made their appearance at noon with the delegations from Nevada and Sunbury.

Mr. Lovejoy's last visit to Pontiac was a memorable one. The address was logical and convincing and delivered in such a way as to convince the people of the deep earnestness which the speaker felt for the cause which he was advocating.

COLONEL ROBERT G. INGERSOLL.

Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll of Peoria, delivered a political address before a large assemblage in the city park in Pontiac during the month of September, 1863. It was during the campaign and the Colonel's address to this day is often referred to as the best ever delivered in Pontiac to this date. At that time he was but little known in Pontiac, but in after years people who heard the speech delivered in the city park, became great admirers of Mr. Ingersoll, and would travel many miles to listen to one of his speeches.

GENERAL U. S. GRANT.

On Tuesday, May 4, 1880, General U. S. Grant, ex-President of the United States, visited Pontiac. Shortly after his return to his old home in Galena, the citizens of Springfield sent him

an invitation to visit the state capital, the home and burial place of Abraham Lincoln, and partake of its hospitality for a few days. He accepted the invitation, and announced that he would visit his son, Colonel Fred Grant in Chicago, and then go down the Chicago and Alton road to the capital. On the publication of this news, Arnold Thornton, H. H. McDowell and a few citizens decided to invite the General and party to stop over in Pontiac on the way and take dinner here. On Saturday, May 1, a dispatch was received from Colonel Grant saying that his father had accepted the invitation, and would take breakfast in Pontiac on Tuesday morning. The gentlemen who had written, had expected that he would not be down until the next week, and anticipated having ample time to prepare for the distinguished guest, but were determined to make the matter a success even on such short notice, so a meeting of citizens was hastily called at the Phoenix hotel that evening, at which Arnold Thornton presided, and after discussing the matter the following committees were appointed to superintend the affair:

General Arrangements.—James E. Morrow, S. S. Lawrence, Charles A. McGregor, Fred L. Alles, A. E. Harding, P. M. Schwarz and J. W. Woodrow.

Finance.—P. M. Schwarz and Charles A. McGregor.

Correspondence.—H. H. McDowell and Fred L. Alles.

Reception.—Arnold Thornton, Judge N. J. Pillsbury, Mayor E. M. Johnson, Martin Doldé, Henry G. Greenebaum, L. E. Kent, John A. Fellows, William T. Ament, Fred J. Maxwell, D. M. Lyon, C. C. Strawn and J. A. Hunter.

It was wisely decided that, inasmuch as the time was short and a breakfast was the designated affair, no attempt at a public display would be made, but simply that the citizens of Pontiac, irrespective of party, desiring to honor a distinguished citizen of the state, would meet him at the depot, conduct him to the hotel, give a few words of welcome, and then partake of a quiet meal in his company. There had been so much ostentatious display in every city where General Grant had stopped that it was thought a quiet affair of this kind would afford a happy contrast. It was at first intended to have about forty guests at the breakfast, but the death of the mother of John Stafford, landlord of the hotel, made it impossible for him to entertain such a

company in proper fashion, and the party was accordingly limited to twenty. It was expected that the party would reach here about 10 o'clock, but it was exactly 12 when the train pulled into the Alton depot. Messrs. Thornton, Harding, Strawn and McDowell had gone up the road and met the party, and the remainder of the reception committee met them at the depot and rode up in carriages. Those who came up to the hotel were General Grant, Hon. E. B. Washburne, General John A. McNulta of Bloomington, James C. McMullin of Chicago (of the Chicago and Alton) and Byron Andrews of the Chicago Inter Ocean. The party was preceded by the Cornell martial band, which discoursed most excellent music, and the Livingston County veterans, one hundred strong, who turned out to honor their old commander. On reaching the hotel the party alighted, General Grant stepping out with a light and active step, and an address of welcome was then delivered by Mayor E. M. Johnson, as follows:

"General Grant:—On behalf of the citizens of Pontiac, I bid you a cordial welcome. I assure you, sir, that although our demonstrations to-day are not so great as have greeted you so often the past few months, that our welcome is none the less hearty. We feel honored to-day in extending courtesies to the renowned military chieftain of the age. Your services to our country are sufficiently known to entitle you to the respect of every American citizen, and especially a citizen of the state of Illinois. Wherever the American flag floats, the name of Grant is received, and although you have been the recipient of honors from the most eminent men of other countries, yet we cannot but believe that you are still one of us, a citizen of the United States. Now that you are closing your travels, it is certainly fitting that you close them by seeing the citizens of your own state. Surrounded to-day by veterans that served you as soldiers, it is certainly due to your illustrious career that their plaudits should not weary you, that the flag which your genius carried to victory and made this indeed a free country, should ever wave to your honor. Identified as you are with the interests of the great prairie state, you have reason to be proud that you are one of its citizens, and we, in turn, proud that you are a citizen. Again, sir, as the representative of this city, I bid you a hearty and cordial welcome."

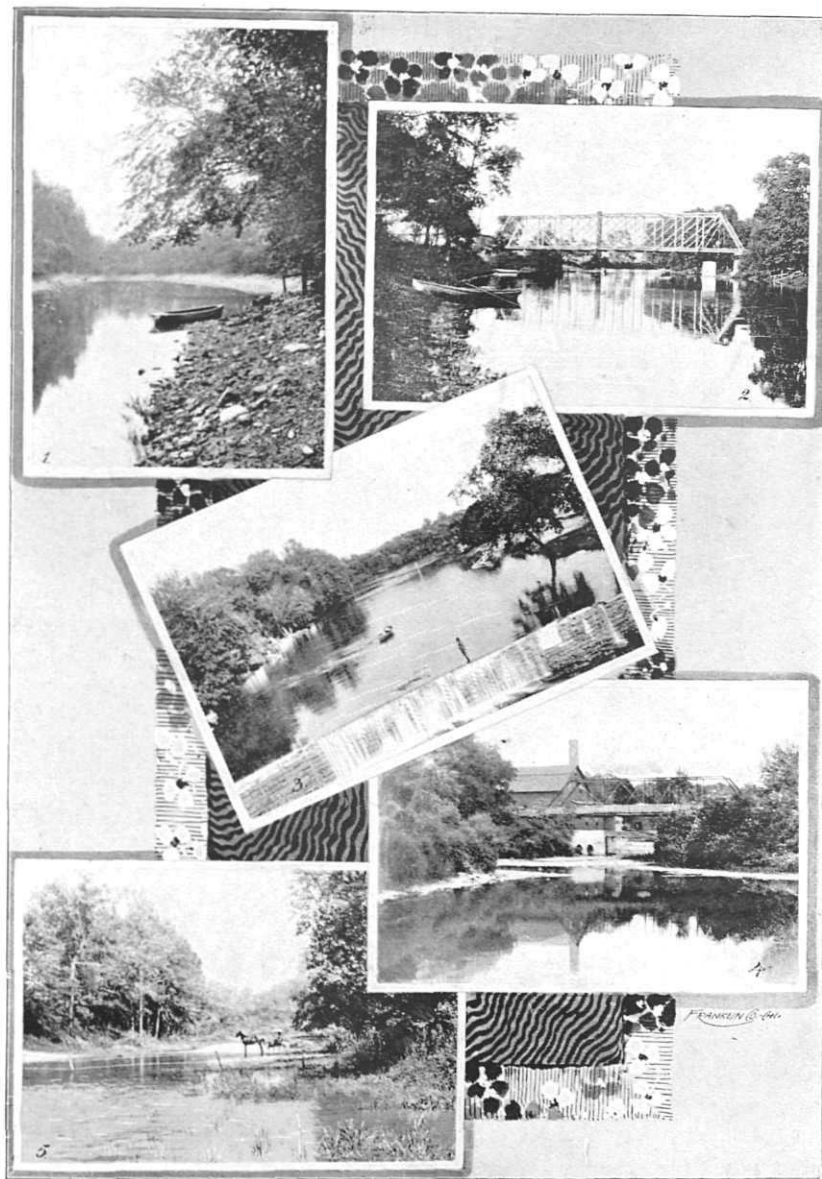
At the conclusion of Mayor Johnson's address General Grant replied in the following words:

"Mr. Mayor and Citizens of Pontiac: I take great pleasure in appearing before you to-day. It is but for a short time, as we are in somewhat of a hurry, and the time will not warrant more than a few minutes. The train was delayed much by the people, and having so arranged the time table as to reach Springfield this afternoon, which place I left nineteen years ago for the war. The services I rendered in that were satisfactory and the results of which are happy, as spoken by your Mayor. The country has now returned to peace and prosperity, which we should all be glad to note. I am happy to see you all."

Then a few moments of introductions took place and the party entered the dining room and took seats in the following order:

General U. S. Grant.	Byron Andrews.
N. J. Pillsbury.	E. M. Johnson.
H. H. McDowell.	B. P. Babcock.
S. S. Lawrence.	John J. Taylor.
Arnold Thornton.	Fred L. Alles.
E. B. Washburn.	C. C. Strawn.
A. E. Harding.	J. A. Hunter.
P. M. Schwarz.	D. M. Lyon.
R. R. Wallace.	J. C. McMullin.
General McNulta.	W. T. Ament.

In describing the personal appearance of General Grant and the Hon. E. B. Washburne the day they were in Pontiac, a writer of that time has the following to say: "Though General Grant was the center of all eyes, the hearty and commanding presence of the Hon. E. B. Washburne commanded much attention. He is a man old in years, but young in heart and health, good for twenty years of rugged life yet, and very possibly will be the man called on to lead the Republican party in the great fight in 1880. He is altogether a magnificent man and commands the respect of every person, without reference to party. In appearance, General Grant is rapidly growing old. Not so fleshy as he was four years ago, when last seen by the writer. He betrays age and weariness in the lines of his face and in his speech. Never a public speaker, General Grant has always been noted for his ability to sit down and chat in a lively manner with his friends. He does so now in a graver manner and with less freedom than of old. Though he is Washburne's junior by many years,



SCENES ON THE VERMILLION RIVER, NEAR PONTIAC

he is his senior in the effects of age and by a score of years."

The conversation at the table took on nothing of a political character, save once when the Hon. C. C. Strawn remarked to Mr. Washburne, "We are going to fight for this greenback question if it takes all summer," to which Mr. Washburne replied quietly, "You are likely to have occupation all summer, my friend."

At the close of the meal, the party filed out into the hotel office, where an informal reception was held, the crowd passing along shaking hands and making occasional remarks. Several little girls were kissed by the general, who was fond of them. The school children were all on hand, many of them with bouquets, and all seemed delighted to see the great man.

At the depot were Mrs. Grant and several other ladies, who took dinner in the dining car, and a number of Pontiac ladies and gentlemen, including Mrs. Camp, who was an old friend of Mrs. Grant, paid their respects to them there.

The entire affair here was a pleasant one and everything passed off smoothly and quietly, there being quite a crowd in the city considering the short notice and the busy season. Flags and decorations were somewhat scarce, but would have been fuller had a longer notice been given. General Grant and party remained in Pontiac one hour and twenty minutes.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

William J. Bryan, candidate for President of the United States in 1896, and again in 1900 and 1908, paid his first visit to Pontiac on Tuesday, October 27, 1896. Mr. Bryan was given an enthusiastic welcome by his many admirers in Pontiac and Livingston County. He addressed the people from the stand in the city park and talked for one-half hour on the political situation of the day, his address being well received. Mr. Bryan has since that time been in Pontiac on three different occasions, delivering addresses under the auspices of the Pontiac Chatauqua Association. His admirers here are many, as his audiences at the Chatauqua grounds attest.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

President Theodore Roosevelt paid a visit on Thursday, June 3, 1903, the occasion being the unveiling of the Livingston County soldiers' and sailors' monument, an account of which is given on another page.

CHAPTER XX.

PHENOMENA—CALAMITOUS EVENTS.

REMINISCENCES OF THE DEEP SNOW OF 1830-31—
HIGHWATER OF 1859—HAVOC CAUSED BY FLOOD
IN VERMILION RIVER—LIST OF PRINCIPAL SUFFERERS—WIND STORMS—DESTRUCTIVE HURRICANES OF 1859—LATER VISITATIONS—PONTIAC, ODELL, FAIRBURY AND AMITY TOWNSHIP SERIOUS SUFFERERS.

The early settlers had very hard times during the first year or two on account of the deep snow which fell in December, 1830. There were but three families in the county, V. M. Darnall in Indian Grove Township; Isaac Jordon, who located on the north banks of the Vermilion river, southeast of Pontiac; and Frederick Rook, who settled on a creek, which still bears his name, some five miles west of Pontiac. This fall of snow was phenomenal, and its like, probably, had never occurred before and certainly has not since, within the limits of the state. Snow began falling on the morning of December 28th, and it continued for three days until it had reached a depth of five feet. This was followed by a drizzling rain, which turned to sleet, the weather became intensely cold, and the whole face of the country was covered with a sheet of ice. The storm was very destructive to game. It is said that deer by the hundred starved to death, and those that survived were so emaciated that they were unfit for food. Quail and grouse also perished in great numbers.

The day before this snowfall commenced, Mr. Darnall started for the home of John B. Thompson, his brother-in-law, on the Mackinaw, to procure a supply of pork for his family, going in a wagon; and, although it was but eight miles distant, on account of this extraordinary snowfall he was prevented from returning home for nearly a week. Taking half a hog, he started home on horseback. He had no compass to guide him. The snow was so deep that the horse would sink to the saddle girths. It was a perilous undertaking and many times he thought it useless to proceed. But he continued on his journey, and just as the sun was setting, he noticed smoke

curling from the chimney of his cabin which was nearly buried by the snow. There was a happy meeting around the family table that evening.

At the end of the snowfall, Mrs. Darnall dressed herself in her husband's trousers and cleared a path to the rail pen where there were three calves, which she drove into the cabin to keep them from perishing. Mr. Darnall succeeded in killing two wild hogs which roamed near his cabin; and this helped to fill the family larder. The snow lay on the ground for nearly three months, and during that period he cut down enough timber to make 3,000 rails. The branches he gave to his stock to browse on, and on this, together with a small allowance of corn, he wintered nine heads of cattle and fifteen sheep. For two months he saw no human being, except his family, until his brother-in-law, John B. Thompson, came over from Mackinaw.

When Isaac Jordon and Frederick Rook and their families came to this county, but a short time before this snow, they brought with them a few cattle. The chance to cut hay for their stock was very slim, and their dependence was upon spots of buffalo grass. But the winter coming on earlier than was expected, all hope for stock to live was cut off, unless they could find sufficient bass or linwood to cut down for their cattle to browse upon. Then came the deep snow, followed by the heavy sleet, which formed such a heavy crust that the cattle could not be driven through the snow. This crust continued for several months and most of their stock died of starvation and cold. Their supplies for the household ran short during the deep snow, and famine stared their families in the face. The nearest place for provisions was across the prairie southwest toward Mackinaw. No team could travel, even if they had had one, so they made a sled and started on foot, first making and putting on snow shoes, as was then the custom of the Indians, and then they made for the Mackinaw settlement, some thirty miles distant. There they obtained two bushels of corn each, shelled it, and started for home in the same way as they had gone, arriving home on the evening of the second day. Mills for grinding corn and wheat were not available in those days, so they made mortars out of the boulders found on the banks of the river, and pounded the corn sufficiently to make samp, or made hominy. When this supply was gone, they

made the same trip over and over again until spring opened.

THE HIGH WATER OF 1869.

It is not within the memory of men who have resided in Pontiac since the town was laid out, that so severe a rain and so disastrous a flood has been known, as visited us during the last three days of June and the first four days of July, 1869. Being aware that the human mind is subject to extravagance, and is apt to think every severe rain the hardest, every cold day the coldest, and every hot day the hottest, and it is possible that some one has seen a heavier rain than that of Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27, 1869, yet we don't believe it. Old citizens of Pontiac, whose word is as good as an oath at any time, tell us that the river never was so high before or since at this place, and we believe them. When it commenced raining Friday afternoon, people in town waited until the rain should be over before attempting to go home, but they finally concluded they would not wait for it to stop; in fact, it did not stop, but if possible, rained harder and harder each hour through the night. When daylight broke Saturday morning, all the sloughs and low places were full, and by actual measurement the rain had fallen from ten to fifteen inches during the day and night. Many chimneys in Pontiac which had never been known to fill up with water so as to run out of the stove-pipe hole, had poured out great streams of sooty water upon the floor and carpet of the unfortunate occupants. At intervals during the day Saturday, heavy falls of rain came down, increasing the prospect for a general flood. The water in the small streams and low places throughout the county had become so high that railroad travel was considered dangerous, and all freight trains were stopped. On Saturday, the river was rising rapidly, and before night the water was running across the south side of the wagon bridge in Pontiac. During the night, the river rose to an unprecedented height, and Sunday morning the sight was most terrifying. Every house south of the river, with the exception of a few on the hill, was surrounded by water, and in some near the river the water nearly reached the second floor, while all of the houses situated on the low ground north and northeast, and northwest of the Central school building on the north side of the river, were surrounded by water, many of them having

two feet of water on the floor. The road leading east of Pontiac was one uninterrupted sheet of water to the timber, where boats might have plied the whole distance. The north slough running from the Duff farm at the east across the town and along the north boundary of it, presented the appearance of a navigable river. Lots and farms, which had been considered exempt heretofore, now paid tribute to the flood. The damage to fences, gardens and crops in that locality was immense, and every bridge was swept off the slough. But along the Vermillion river the damage was the most severe. No dwellings were swept off, very few trees and logs came down, but out-houses, fences, sheds, etc., were swept away in great numbers. On the south side of the river, the water covered all the high table land to the extreme limits of the town, the old fair grounds, the cemetery, and extended up considerable distance to the west and south. All day Sunday, boats were in requisition helping those out of their houses who were in danger of getting drowned out. Pigs, chickens, horses and cattle that were turned loose from the stables, were circulating around to find dry ground. At the Vermillion bridge, Street Commissioner William Perry was at work, and with the assistance of Seymour Bennett, Captain Wheeler and George Pullman and others, succeeded, after an almost superhuman effort, in saving the bridge. At the railroad bridge, a large number of laborers were engaged in carrying iron and stone on for weight, cutting away the siding to allow the water to pass through, and warding off the flood-wood that made its way down the river. L. E. Kent's cattle sheds were inundated, and several head of live stock were drowned. Taken altogether, Sunday, June 28, 1869, was the most exciting day Pontiac has ever witnessed, and we shall not be deemed irreverent if we put in a petition that the like may not be known again. John Geiger, who lived on Water street, where the home of Charles St. John is now located, was drowned while attempting to save his fence on Sunday afternoon. He asked one of his little girls to go to the house and get a chain for his use, and she returned just in time to see her father sink to his death. The body was recovered an hour later. Geiger was a harness maker, a member of the Masonic lodge, and a good citizen. His family consisted of a wife and six small children.

Elijah Morris, who was compelled to remain

in Pontiac from Saturday on account of the flood, started on horseback for his home in Owego township on Monday morning, and rode his horse into a deep hole just east of the village and was drowned before help could reach him.

Daniel Markle, a farmer living near Chatsworth, was also drowned in the Vermillion about four miles above the Chatsworth bridge, while attempting to ford the river with a team of horses.

The Pontiac Woolen Mills company were quite severe sufferers, the water coming up some five feet on the first floor, stopping all the machinery for over one week.

N. B. Kindred lost 40,000 brick at his yards east of Pontiac. All the ice houses along the Vermillion in Pontiac were flooded, and the citizens were compelled to do without this necessary article during the remainder of the summer.

A portion of the bridge over Indian creek near Fairbury was swept away, but was soon repaired. The bridge over the south branch of the Vermillion at Forrest was so badly damaged that trains were not permitted to cross it for three days.

In the vicinity of Odell and Dwight, the flood was accompanied by hail, resulting in great damage to the growing crops.

The village of Pontiac, during the flood, was an island and a small one at that. The waters of the slough from the east reached a point this side of where the Kipp lumber yard is now located, and extended west along Prairie street to the Alton tracks. Citizens living on the high ground north of the slough constructed a large raft holding fifteen people and came to the village to do their trading in this manner for over a week. The raft was landed near the Central school building.

One of the grandest celebrations of the Fourth of July was to have been held in Pontiac on Monday, July 5, 1869. It was a county affair, and delegations from all over were to be present. The fair grounds were to be used for that purpose and the War Governor of Illinois was to address the people. The celebration had to be abandoned, as not enough dry space could be found in the village for the people to congregate.

DESTRUCTIVE WIND STORMS.

A hurricane passed over this county on May 26, 1859, demolishing houses, tearing up trees, prostrating fences, and making complete wreck

of everything in its path. It swept over a belt half a mile wide, and traveled in a northwesterly direction over the county, the principal damage being done in Pike, Rooks Creek, Esmen, Avoca and Pontiac townships. In Rooks Creek township, it blew down the house of M. D. Edgington. Striking the timber below Remick's mill, it tore down the largest trees, and sent limbs flying over the prairies to a distance of three miles. Further on, it struck the house of Delos Robinson, scattering the boards of the house, furniture, cooking utensils, clothing, etc., in every direction, leaving nothing but a stove and floor to mark the spot where the house stood. Three feather beds were blown away. A wagon stood near the house, the tongue of which was driven under the corner with such force by the storm that three men were unable to draw it out, and a team had to be used for that purpose. The home of Samuel Schlosser was made a perfect wreck, and strewn all over the prairie. William Bruckner's house was blown to pieces, not a stick of it being left within half a mile of where the house stood. Two miles of fence on the farm of Hiram Young was scattered in all directions. The dwelling house of Arthur Chambers in Rooks Creek was destroyed, not a stick being left on the place. Alva Potter had a part of the roof of his house blown off, together with ten acres of timber. E. Stratton's house, in Pike township, was blown off its foundation and his corner crib sent flying some eighty rods. Presley Breckenridge had an orchard destroyed and David Breckenridge had a general distribution of his fence all over the prairie. So violent was the storm that it bent two lightning rods on his house almost double. Joseph Perry had 160 acres of timber almost totally destroyed. No lives were lost, although some of the escapes were miraculous.

One of the worst hurricanes which ever passed over this county occurred at 4:45 o'clock on the afternoon of November 26, 1859, the most damage being done to the town of Pontiac, although that place at that time was not largely inhabited. The tornado came from the southwest and lasted but a few minutes. The roof of the court-house, cupola and gable end were blown down, involving a loss of \$1,500. A two-story house belonging to Frederick Sinsel was torn to splinters, burying Mrs. Sinsel, her little son, and Miss Margret Gibson beneath the ruins, but fortunately none was seriously injured. The roofs of J. W.

Strevell's hardware store, John Geiger's harness shop, Babcock's new warehouse, Martin Dolde's carpenter shop and H. C. Challis's blacksmith shop, were blown off. The dwellings of Mrs. Hull and John Sheets were scattered to the winds, and dwellings of Charles Barker and Charles Knight were blown from their foundations and turned around. Barns all over the village were demolished.

ODELL.—On Wednesday, May 12, 1886, at 3:45 in the afternoon, Odell was struck by a terrific hurricane which demolished business houses, dwellings, unroofed half of the principal business block, laid waste fences, trees, sidewalks, and spread general havoc in its track. For several hours a heavy black cloud had hung in the west and later two clouds rose from the east and northeast, and these and the dark cloud seemed to be attracted to each other, and meeting, developed into the tempest which bore eastward toward the town, demolishing Hoke's livery stable; crumbling into a mass of debris the hardware store of Samuel Cole, burying six persons in the ruins, and injuring two children; hurling the old mill off its foundation, demolishing into fragments the hay sheds and hay press adjacent; unroofing the Eastern Hotel and half of the buildings in that block, as well as blowing in the end of the Angell brick building; unroofing the Alton elevator and Vincent's two warehouses; the old school house was completely demolished; the Congregational church was moved from its base; one corner of Matthiessen's brick building was blown off; Frank McGinley's cottage was taken from its foundation and set bottom side up; Kelman's photograph car was blown into splinters; Buchanan's carpenter shop was destroyed; the barns of John McWilliams, Jeremiah Clay, Frank Finefield, R. R. Puffer, E. Vaughan, Capt. Salters, Hial Hamlin, James A. Hunter, were demolished. Lottie Zwiefel, a girl aged six years, was caught by the wind and hurled onto the railroad track, inflicting fatal injuries from which she died the following morning. The loss to buildings and damage to stock of goods by the rain, was estimated at \$50,000.

FAIRBURY.—On Monday June 25, 1877, a destructive wind and rain storm passed over Fairbury, entailing a loss of \$25,000. The storm struck the city at 11:30. It came from the southwest and traveled in a northeasterly direction. The west coal shaft building was blown to pieces, but the main part of the building, tip-



J. R. Colbourne

ple, and machinery were left intact; Walton's grain storehouse was turned over onto the T. P. & W. railroad tracks; and Free Will Baptist church was shattered, the outer course of brick having been torn out nearly the entire length of the building; the regular Baptist church had the west end of the north side of the roof blown away, the interior of the building being damaged by the downpour of rain; the amphitheater at the fair grounds was shoved from its moorings about sixteen feet at one end, and eight feet at the other; Isaac Kerr's paint shop was totally demolished; Michael McDonald's house, in the east part of the city, was lifted six feet away from its foundation; the Methodist parsonage was lifted from its foundation pegs and set over east about five feet, breaking the floor and otherwise rendering the house untenable. The most terrible wreck of all was the Methodist church building, a two-story brick structure, which had been dedicated on Sunday, December 31, previous. The wind seemed to lift the whole upper story bodily from the lower portion of the building, and carried roof, brick and timbers in every direction. The main part of the roof fell on the two lots east of the church, a portion of the falling timbers striking the dwelling house of A. R. Carmen, demolishing a part of the kitchen. The south gable of the church building was left standing, as was also a portion of the lower story of the west wall, upon the inside of which was seen the motto, "In God We Trust." The walls were afterward torn down. In a number of instance, trees two feet in diameter were torn out by the roots and caried some distance away. The Methodist church congregation held services in McDowell's hall until January 20, 1878, when their new church was dedicated.

AMITY TOWNSHIP.—A destructive storm passed through Amity Township on the afternoon of June 20, 1870. The cyclone formed three miles southwest of Cornell, and taking a northwest course carried almost everything before it. The first house in its path was Joseph Long's. It was slightly damaged, but his barn was destroyed. Ira Cook's house, occupied by Samuel Plymlier, was totally demolished. Plymlier was in the house at the time, but only received slight injuries. William Van Camp's barn was torn into shreds. It then crossed Vermillion river and tore large trees up by the roots and piled them in every shape imaginable. William Sutcliffe's house was moved ten feet. David Pond's

kitchen was torn to pieces. Ezra Parker's kitchen was carried thirty feet and the east half of the roof was torn away. Richard Connor's house, barn, shed and every building was swept from the place. Mr. Connor and wife were both badly injured. The school house near Mr. Connor's place was torn to pieces. School was in session at the time, and the teacher, Miss Nettie Myers, got the children around her by the door, and a little son of Douglas Morrison was the only scholar injured, C. C. Leonard's house was partially wrecked, and one horse killed in his barn.

CHAPTER XXI.

COLONIES OF FOREIGN SETTLERS.

ARRIVAL OF FIRST NORWEGIAN COLONY IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1825—STORY OF THE VOYAGE—CLING PEARSON, THE LEADER, VISITS ILLINOIS—FIRST COLONY ARRIVES IN LA SALLE COUNTY IN 1834—LATER ARRIVALS FROM NORWAY—LAND MARKET CONDITIONS—NORSEMEN IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY NUMBER ABOUT 750—RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION—THE AMISH (GERMAN MENNONITE) SETTLEMENT—RULES OF LIFE AND RELIGIOUS FAITH.

The first emigration from Norway to the United States was in 1825, just five years previous to the time the first settler arrived in Livingston County and erected his cabin. Cling Pearson, of Hesthamer, Norway, came over in 1822, and on his return gave a glowing picture of America, and finding the people of Stavinger, a small town of his neighborhood, dissatisfied with their minister, appointed by the government, and desirous of changing their location, he persuaded them to emigrate. They purchased a small vessel, a two masted fishing sloop, for \$1,800, and fifty-two emigrants set sail in their little craft for the western continent. They sailed through the North Sea and English Channel to Madeira, where they got short of provisions, picked up a pipe of wine, which they enjoyed hugely, and there laid in a stock of provisions. They left Norway July 4, reached Funchal August 18, and New York the last day of October, 1825, fifty-three in number, an in-

crease of one. In New York, they sold the vessel for \$400 and the company divided, twenty-eight going with Cling to Orleans County, New York, where they purchased land and formed a settlement, the first Norwegian settlement in America. But Cling Pearson was a restless spirit. He again rambled West and explored Illinois, and fixed on a location in La Salle County, near the border of Livingston. Cling stated that when exploring the country afterward occupied by his countrymen, becoming weary, he lay down under a tree, slept, and dreamed, and in his dream he saw the wild prairie changed to a cultivated region, teeming with all kinds of grain and fruits, most beautiful to behold; that splendid houses and barns stood all over the land, occupied by a rich, happy people. He awoke refreshed, and, nerved anew by his dream, went back to his countrymen in New York and persuaded them to emigrate to Illinois. Cling's dream may have been dreamed awake, but it has been fully realized. The early days of the Norwegian settlement were days of poverty and toil, and they repeatedly suffered terribly by Asiatic cholera, but they have surmounted their trials, and are now, as seen in Cling's dream, a wealthy, prosperous and happy people. Cling Pearson afterward went to Texas and died there. The first Norwegian colony from New York came to La Salle County in 1834, being part of the fifty-three who came over from Norway in 1825. Since that, others have followed from Norway, and the first fifty-three emigrants have welcomed many of their old neighbors to the land of their adoption.

Some of the Norwegian settlers of Livingston County came direct from Norway, but the first ones came from La Salle County here, which was known in the early days among the Norwegian people as the "country of frogs," due to the great amount of lowlands and swamps. But the land was cheap, as low as \$1.25 per acre, Government price, and grass and pasture were plentiful. Markets, however, were poor and money was very hard to get. The principal markets which they visited at times were St. Louis and Chicago, which were reached mostly by boats through the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and the Illinois and Michigan canal. The local market was at Ottawa and the milling was done at Dayton, La Salle County. The distance was traveled by oxen over the prairies and around the swamps as best they could. They

usually went to La Salle once or twice each year to do their trading and milling. Later, Pontiac became their local market, and still later, Rowe, Graymont, Cornell, etc.

Owing to the great amount of swamps and stagnant water evaporating, the country was unhealthy, especially for those coming from the far north, and a great deal of malarial disease, with consequent hardships, was encountered by the Norsemen. It was a very common thing for the farmers to be taken down in the midst of their summer work with what they called the ague and other malarial diseases. These lowlands are now all drained out by tile drainage, they have a healthy climate, and are supposed to be the best land in the world, worth from \$125 to \$200 per acre. A considerable number of the Norsemen and their descendants have managed to retain a good portion of it.

In politics, with few exceptions, they are Republicans. A large number have served and are now serving in different capacities as township officers, and, as far as known, with honor and integrity, but no county or higher office has yet been held by a Norseman. The reason is perhaps that nearly all who have settled here have come from country districts in the old country where a liberal education was hard to get, and the younger generation has not availed itself of the opportunities afforded here for higher education.

However, the Norsemen are awaking in Livingston County along political lines for the first time in their history. On several occasions one of their number has aspired to a county office, only to meet with defeat at the hands of the convention. On Monday, February 24, 1908, they met at the city hall in Pontiac and organized a branch of the Scandinavian League by electing the following officers:

President, Dr. J. M. Mitchell; Vice President, P. G. Sjoborg; Recording Secretary, Ole A. Erickson; Corresponding Secretary, J. C. Diemer; Treasurer, L. B. Shay; Sergeant-at-Arms, Peter J. Peterson.

There are about 750 residents of the county who are Norsemen, the great majority being farmers and well to do.

The first church work done among the Norse settlers of Livingston County was in Amity Township by a Methodist missionary by the name of John Brown. He baptized a number of children and preached among them with good success un-

til the year 1862, but without having organized a congregation. About this time, a Lutheran congregation was organized and they called a pastor by the name of Peter Asbjorson, belonging to the Lutheran Augustana Synod. The work went on nicely for some time and a wealthy American by the name of Bronson Murray, who came to the county in an early day and bought up land, offered to give them forty acres of good land on which to build a parsonage. While this was pending, a difference of opinion concerning the church liturgy caused a division, as some adhered to the old state church of the Norwegian Synod, and the Murray offer was withdrawn. The remnant proceeded, however, and built what was known as the Augustana Church in the western part of Esmen Township. Later, the others, known as the Norwegian Synod people, somehow connected with the Missouri Synod, built a church at Rowe Station. Both of these congregations have lately been merged, forming the St. Paul Lutheran Church at Rowe, now belonging to the United Lutheran church, and under the charge of Rev. Mickelson.

In 1872, a preacher by the name of Herman W. Abelson became known by some families and was engaged to take up the pastoral work in the locality. Being a resident of La Salle County at the time, he came to Amity quite frequently and preached, and performed pastoral work between the years 1872 and 1880, but no organization was effected by what was called the Hague people until February 3, 1880. On that date a congregation by the name of Abel's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized. Pastor H. W. Abelson was called and the congregation adopted formally a Lutheran creed as accepted and set forth in Hague's Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and a subscription was taken up for its school in Red Wing, Minn. About the same time the pastor took up the work in a small settlement near Mud Creek, which was kept up a number of years by him and his successor, Rev. Theodore Hansen, and later taken up by a minister from Rowe, and which is now under the charge of Pastor Mickelson of the United Lutheran Church.

Pastor Abelson about the same time, or a little later, took up work in what was known as the Rooks Creek settlement, a congregation being organized there in 1880, known as the Rooks Creek Evangelical Lutheran Church, which later joined the Hague synod, but owing to poor

health he had to resign shortly afterward and, as his successor, Pastor Theodore Hansen was called and served eleven years. After him other ministers of the same synod have continued the work in the congregation, which now also has a church and services in Pontiac.

The Abel Evangelical Lutheran Church above referred to, having diminished in numbers, later on joined in with the Rooks Creek church.

THE AMISH SETTLEMENT.

Throughout the southern portion in the county, especially in the townships of Pike, Indian Grove, Pleasant Ridge, and Forrest, are located many German Mennonites, more commonly known as Amish. The largest colony is in Waldo Township. They first settled in this county in the early '60s, and at the present time there are at least 1,000 heads of families within its borders. They are an industrious, frugal class of people and fond of their church and customs. They profess to be followers of Amah, a noted preacher in their country, who made many converts from the original Mennonite body. There are four denominations in this county—the Old Amish, New Amish, Eggli and Stuckey. The people are simple in their habits and dress, and wear no jewelry. The male members are shorn of their mustaches and do not vote. The rules of one faction of the church are as follows:

No member of the sect shall have his photograph taken.

There shall be no sumptuous furnishing of homes, even wall paper with figures in it, and pictures on the walls being prohibited.

No carpets are allowed upon the floors.

The church is a severely plain building and very plainly furnished.

Hooks and eyes are allowed on the clothes, buttons not being allowed on articles of personal wear.

The members are forbidden to go to law.

Property, although in the name of individuals, is held by the community, and if a member of the community is without money or lands, all must help to secure them for him.

Bearing arms, tale bearing and taking of oaths are forbidden.

Even courtship and marriage are provided for by the church.

A man or woman must allow the church community to select wife or husband.

After the marriage ceremony has been performed, the couple must separate for a week, and not see each other during that time. Afterward they must live together.

No man may be admitted to the church until he has confessed all his sins as far as possible and made atonement.

At the celebration of the Lord's Supper, the feet of the participants must be literally washed.

Bishops, preachers and elders are chosen by lot, and they are not allowed to accept pay for their services.

Idleness on the part of any man, woman or child of the community is prohibited.

And it is prohibited that any man shall kiss or fondle his wife or children in public.

The leading features of Amish, or more properly speaking, Mennonite bodies, have been baptism, or professing of faith, refusal of oaths, of civic offices and of the support of the state in war and a tendency toward asceticism.

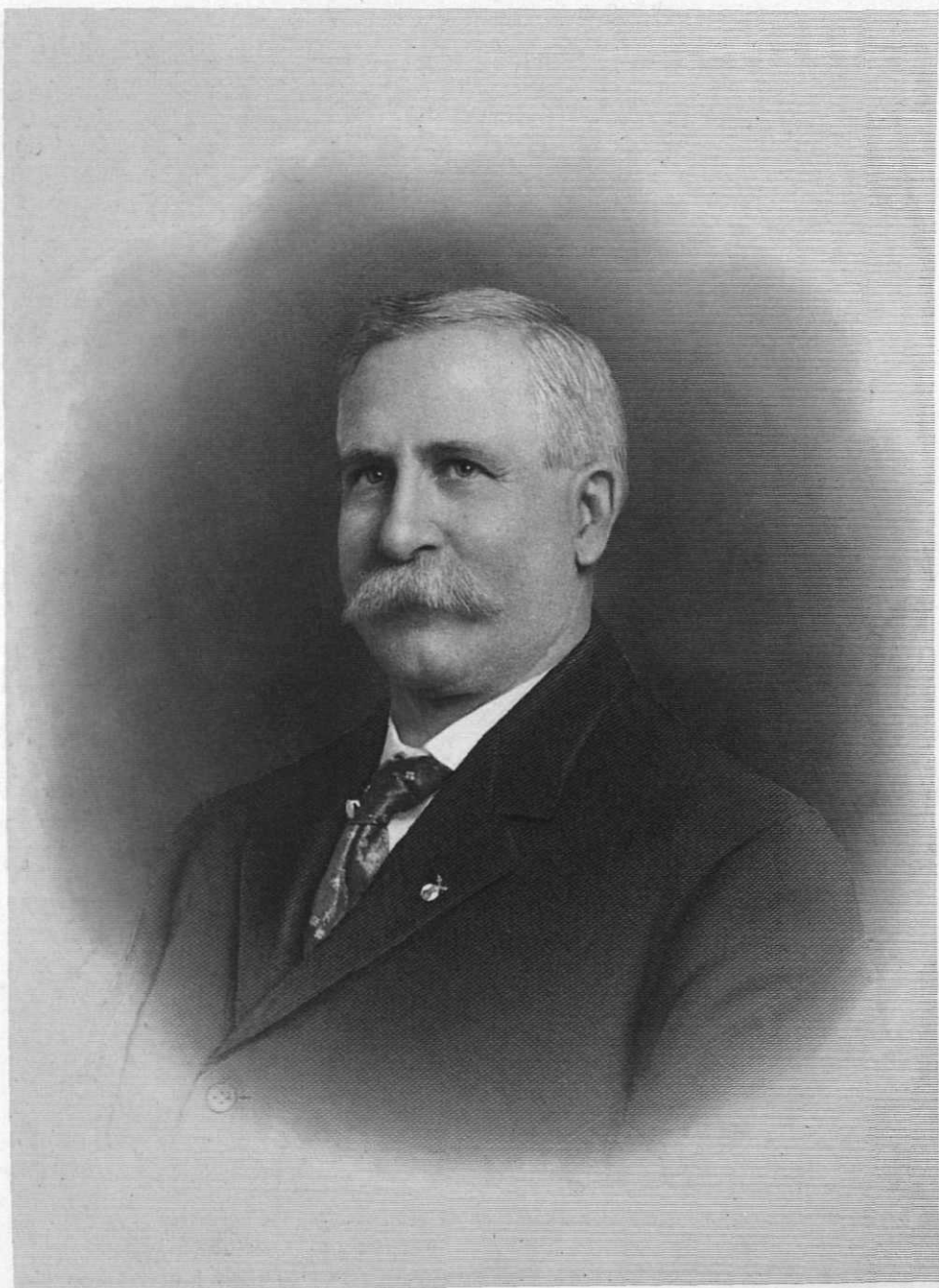
CHAPTER XXII.

NOTABLE CRIMES.

TRAGICAL HISTORY OF AN EARLY MURDER CASE IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—AN INNOCENT MAN CONVICTED AND EXECUTED ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE—OTHER NOTED CAPITAL CRIMES—THE SOTER-ROLLINS MURDER CASE—THE PRUSSIAN POLE, PONWITZ, ASSASSINATED BY HIS PARTNER—PERPETRATORS OF THE MARLOTT MURDER ESCAPÉ PUNISHMENT—THE FARMER JONES MURDER AND BRUTAL LYNCHING OF HIS SON—ASSASSINATION OF CITY MARSHAL HODGE OF PONTIAC—THE ONLY LEGAL HANGING.

On Friday morning, November 11, 1858, the dead body of Mary Murphy was found about two and one-half miles south of Pontiac, lying within a few feet of the Alton tracks, by William Cleary, section foreman for the Alton railroad, at Pontiac. Three weeks previous, the girl hired as a domestic in the house of Mrs. Mary McGregor of Pontiac, and returned in a few days to her father's home on Rooks Creek, near the village of Ocoya, to get her clothing, with the

intention of returning Sunday evening. It seems that she left her father's home Sunday afternoon on her return, and the supposition was at that time that some villain or villains met the girl on the road, and after violating her person, murdered her in order to prevent detection. Her face was perfectly black, evidently from being choked, her skull fractured, and one of her arms badly bruised. A negro by the name of "Bob," who was employed at the Alton pump house in Pontiac, was arrested the next day after the discovery of the body and charged with the murder, but after the preliminary examination conducted before Justice Streamer in Pontiac, he was discharged. Sheriff William T. Russell, under the direction of the board of supervisors, at once offered a reward of \$250 for the apprehension of the murderer or murderers of the girl, and a diligent search was at once instituted. A negro was seen to pass through Pontiac about the time the girl was murdered, stopping at the water tank to wash some blood from his face and hands, then proceeding on his way northward, following the Alton tracks. Captain Bradley of the detective force of Chicago became interested in the case, and at once placed a "shadow" on the track of the negro answering the description of the one who passed through Pontiac, as above mentioned. The negro was seen walking along the track by a Mr. Birch, and Sheriff Russell at once sent him to Chicago to assist Captain Bradley in his search for the suspected man. Later on, Sheriff Russell employed a negro in Chicago to work on the case, and he at once started for Wisconsin, where a clew to the man suspected of the crime had been seen. About the last of May, 1859, a negro giving the name of John Morrison, alias Robert Munson, was arrested by the authorities of Whitewater, Wis., having been found by the negro detective employed by Sheriff Russell. The sheriff at once went to Whitewater, and securing the man under arrest, brought him to Pontiac for examination. On Saturday, June 11, 1859, just seven months to a day after the finding of the body of Mary Murphy, John Morrison, alias Robert Munson, alias Wiley J. Morris, was given his preliminary hearing before Justice Streamer. A. E. Harding was appointed to defend the prisoner, while Prosecuting Attorney C. J. Beattie took charge of the state's case. After the introduction of many witnesses on behalf of the state, who gave damaging testimony against the negro, Mr. Harding, counsel for the



B. F. Colhoun

prisoner, said he had no witnesses to offer, but contended that the evidence was insufficient to justify the prisoner's committal. There was no use of denying that the prisoner was on the railroad near the time when the murder was supposed to have been committed, the prisoner himself admitting it, but because he happened to be seen in the vicinity of the murder, it did not necessarily follow that he was the murderer. C. J. Beattie then followed in behalf of the people, claiming that not a link was lacking in the chain of evidence which pointed to the prisoner as being the murderer of Mary Murphy. Justice Streamer decided to commit the prisoner for trial and he was at once taken to Bloomington. The case came up in the circuit court of this county in the fall of 1860, and it was shown on the part of the prosecution that Morris had been seen walking on the railroad track, about a mile behind the girl afterward found murdered; that the rate at which he was walking, as compared with her pace, would cause him to overtake her at the point where the body was found, and that he had just been in a murderous brawl at Bloomington and was a desperate character. The evidence was wholly circumstantial, but quite strong, the people of his own color giving the most damaging testimony against Morris. He was ably defended by A. E. Harding, who labored greatly under the disadvantage of a popular feeling which then existed in the community against the color of his client. The jury, after an absence of an unusually long time, failed to agree, standing eleven to one for conviction, and Morris was again sent back to Bloomington to jail to await a new trial. In the meantime, Mr. Harding made application for a change of venue from Livingston to Kankakee county, and the case went there for trial. The case came to trial in April, 1861, but in this, Morris was more unsuccessful, for he was found guilty of murder in the first degree and condemned to hang in May. Mr. Harding, being convinced of the entire innocence of his client, tried in every manner known to the law to save his client from the gallows, but to no avail, and Morris went to his death shouting, "You murder me, you murder me." Dr. Darius Johnson and Dr. O. S. Wood of Pontiac officiated as physicians at the hanging in Kankakee, and for their trouble obtained the body of Morris after it was pronounced dead. Dr. Wood, who was then a medical student in Dr. Johnson's office, secured an excellent skeleton from the body

to pursue his studies by. During the war, the skeleton was disposed of to Prof. O. S. Fowler for \$25 and taken to New York to be hung up in a museum. Subsequent revelations, however, show that Morris was an innocent man, and not guilty of murdering Mary Murphy. In 1877, one of the Hildebrand brothers, notorious in the early days in this section of the state as being a member of one of the most daring bands of thieves, desperadoes and cut-throats then at large, lay dying in a hospital in the city of Baltimore, Md. Being aware that death was near, he made a clear confession of all his crimes, the one for which Morris was hung being uppermost in his mind. Hildebrand stated that he and his gang were operating in Livingston county at that time, being camped in the timber near the railroad track, at Pontiac; that Mary Murphy was seen approaching them from the south, and it was at once made up to capture her and take her to the camp. This was done, and for two weeks the poor girl suffered every indignity at their hands. When it came time for them to move, the girl was taken to the railroad track and there murdered by the outlaws, the body being found the week following by William Cleary, who notified the proper authorities. This fact was published in the Baltimore papers at the time, together with dates and other circumstances given by Hildebrand, and was largely commented upon by the press throughout the United States.

On the night of April 1, 1872, another horrible murder took place in Owego Township. John Soter killing William Rollins, one of the early settlers of the township. The explanation of this willful murder takes us back some years. Many years ago, James Thomas left his wife and brother in South Wales and came to Illinois. After having been here some years he married again, without being divorced from his lawful wife, and after having lived with his last one some years, died, leaving, as she supposed, his property to her. Soon after this, in 1858, she married John Soter, a German, then about 50 years of age. The heirs of Thomas, deceased, his former wife and two brothers, through attorney Franklin Dennison of Chicago, laid claim to the property, 160 acres of land in Owego Township and 40 acres in La Salle County, and after much litigation got an order of court to oust Mr. and Mrs. Soter from the premises, but in way of compromise assigned to them the forty

acres in La Salle County. The attorneys, Mr. Dennison and C. C. Strawn, believed that after some parley the Soters would leave their premises and go quietly to their place in La Salle County, and hesitated about ousting them, although Deputy Marshal Gilman was in Pontiac three times for that purpose. In the first week in March, 1872, Soter went to La Salle County to see his place, but came back, and Gilman finally set them out in the road. In the meantime the land had been rented, half of it to William Rollins, the murdered man, and half to a German named Cachline, the two men occupying different houses on the premises. On the Monday night already mentioned, Soter, who had moved into a portion of the house occupied by Cachline, asked John Rollins, William's son, to come over and fiddle for a dance. While the dance was going on, Mr. Rollins came in and played the fiddle awhile, and Soter, without a word, came around behind him and took up a gun which was there, and shot Rollins in the breast. He lived but two hours. Sheriff John W. Hoover went out the next day and brought in both Soter and his wife and lodged them in jail. It was said at the time that Soter had frequently made threats against Rollins, who being himself quite an inoffensive man, had paid no attention to them. Soter and his wife were regularly indicted and tried for the murder, at the May term of the circuit court, and on June 1, Soter was sentenced to be hanged. C. C. Strawn prosecuted the case, while L. E. Payson was for the defendant. During the latter part of the month, Judge Payson, counsel for Soter, and State's Attorney Strawn went to Springfield, the former to present a petition for commuting the sentence of Soter, and the latter to oppose the commutation. Judge Payson carried with him the certificate of several physicians of Pontiac that Soter was insane, whatever he may have been when he committed the murder. Governor Palmer commuted the sentence of death against Soter to life imprisonment at Joliet on June 26, and the day following he was taken to Joliet, where he died three years later.

On the night of January 23, 1872, a young Prussian Pole named Ponwitz, generally known as the "Count," was killed by his partner, a young man of 28 years, by the name of Schaeffer. The "Count" and Schaeffer were both in Dwight that day, and had been drinking before leaving the town for their home, which was on a rented

farm of R. C. Adams, five miles west of Dwight. The "Count" was supposed to be the son of respectable and titled parents in Prussian Poland, as on several occasions he had cashed drafts for large sums of money at McWilliams' bank in Dwight. Ponwitz was missed by his neighbors, and Schaeffer was seen to drive away the next morning after the murder was committed, wearing the clothing of his partner. He was traced to Chicago and was arrested while disposing of the team of horses which he drove. He confessed to having killed Ponwitz in a quarrel on the night they returned from Dwight; that the "Count" had kicked him while he was putting some coal in the stove, and that he turned around and struck him with a stove iron. He said he had buried the body in a manure pile near the house, and there the body was found in a nearly naked condition by the officers. Schaeffer was brought to Pontiac and lodged in jail. On Tuesday, February 6, a special grand jury was summoned and Schaeffer was indicted for murder, and on the day following, just two weeks after the murder was committed, his trial commenced in the circuit court, Judge Wood presiding. He entered a plea of not guilty, but the jury, which was composed of John Milligan, of Reading, George A. Murphy, James Murphy, A. C. Huetson, Samuel McCormick, A. Saunger and Daniel Siverling, of Pontiac; William Wedgebury, of Esmen; Hiram Vanderlip, of Sullivan; G. B. Vansaun, of Oswego, and Joseph M. Callin, of Amity, found him guilty, assigning him to the penitentiary at Joliet for eighteen years. The prosecution was in the hands of State's Attorney C. C. Strawn, assisted by Joseph I. Dunlop, of Dwight, while William T. Ament and H. H. Brower appeared for Schaeffer. In less than three weeks after the murder was committed, Schaeffer was in Joliet.

On Sunday morning, August 31, 1873, Joseph M. Marlott was killed in his own door yard in Long Point township. There was a plowing match at the farm of Thomas Barrett on the Saturday preceding the murder and arrangements made for a dance in the evening, and Homer Marlott, the brother of the murdered man, was expected to play the violin for the occasion. There was also a dance on that evening at the house of Mr. Flanigan, a neighbor of Barrett's, and Homer Marlott was induced to play for the last named dance. The consequence was that the party at Barrett's were

without music and were greatly incensed at Marlott for disappointing them. The musician played at Flanigan's and returned to his brother's house at about 1 o'clock on Sunday morning. About an hour later, some men came to the house and called Homer Marlott and his brother Joseph, to the door and began to quarrel with them in a violent manner, until finally one of the men, who was recognized as Thomas Barrett, seized a club or stake about four feet long and struck Homer Marlott a blow that laid him senseless. His brother sprang to his assistance, when Barrett dealt him a blow on the left side of the head and neck that dislocated the neck joint and produced almost instant death. Sheriff Robinson was at once notified and went to the scene and arrested Thomas Barrett, Patrick Barrett, Jeremiah Shannon and William Tobin. Previous to the sheriff's arrival, the citizens of Long Point had taken the matter in hand, and when he came the prisoners were under a guard of fifty men, the law and order loving citizens of the township being determined that full and complete justice should be given the accused parties. Thomas Barrett and Jeremiah Shannon were indicted for the murder by the grand jury in October, and a change of venue to McLean county was granted. The case came to trial at the March (1874) term of court in Bloomington. The people were represented by Joseph W. Fifer, State's Attorney S. M. Garratt, of Pontiac, and M. Shallenberger, of Toulon. W. W. O'Brien and Lawrence Harmon, of Peoria, appeared for the defense. After a trial lasting three days the jury disagreed, standing nine for conviction and three for acquittal. At the next trial, they were acquitted.

On the night of Monday, February 8, 1875, Cyrus B. Jones, a prominent farmer of Esmen Township, was assassinated. About 9 o'clock that night, a son of the murdered man, about twenty-two years of age, came into the house and told his father that there was some one at the crib stealing corn and Mr. Jones went out to investigate. His son followed him as far as the gate, and when his father reached the corn crib he heard a report of a pistol, and ran back to the house and told his mother that his father had been shot. Henry Roberts, a neighbor, was sent for, and when he arrived found the lifeless body of Jones lying by the crib. He had been shot in the back of the head, the ball coming out of his mouth. The next day Coroner Johnson and

Sheriff Robinson were notified and went to the scene of the murder. After a lengthy session, the coroner's jury found that Jones came to his death from a gunshot wound inflicted by a person or persons unknown to the jury, and from that day until the present time the cold-blooded murder of Cyrus B. Jones has never been avenged. On Sunday evening, February 15, just one week after the murder was committed, an affair took place in Esmen Township that would have disgraced a band of border ruffians. A party of three men visited the residence of the murdered man and called for Jones' son, William H. The young man presented himself, and one of the party told him he was a deputy sheriff, and had a warrant for him for killing his father, and that he had better go quietly along with them to Pontiac, where he would be safe, as there was a mob raised in Cayuga to lynch him. The pretended officer then read the warrant to him and proceeded to handcuff him and place him in the sled, and started, as the family supposed, for Pontiac. But when the party reached Babcock's Grove they were met by another party of three men, and young Jones was taken from the sled, thrown over a fence, and marched into the timber. He was then told if he did not confess that he had killed his father they would hang him. Twice he was suspended, but the limb over which the rope passed, not being sufficiently strong to bear his weight, he was marched further into the woods and told that if he had anything to say to say it quickly, as his minutes were numbered. The boy told them to tell his mother to take his team and use it in farming the land, and also to take his part of the estate and sell it and use the money in finding out who it was that killed his father. He then knelt in prayer, but the ruffians again passed the rope over a limb and three times drew him up, so long each time that animation was suspended, the boy begging them in the intervals to hang him at once, and not put him to such torture, to which they replied that he was too mean to die like anybody else and that they would kill him as they pleased. After they found that they could not extort a confession from him, they proceeded to kick and cuff him, and took from him his overcoat, overshoes and cap, and, maimed, as he was, told him to make his way home on foot. The boy started and reached home about midnight in a deplorable condition. One of his feet was frozen as

hard as a board, and his hands and ears were not in a much better condition. When the facts in the case came to the knowledge of Judge Pillsbury, he at once ordered a special grand jury impaneled. Three people residing in Esmen were indicted for this outrage, being identified by young Jones. They were never tried for their part in the affair, the suit being finally stricken from the docket.

On Monday morning about 9:30 o'clock, July 21, 1890, William Hodge, city marshal of Pontiac, was shot by Daniel North, receiving wounds from which he died at his home the following day. North was a blacksmith by trade, 27 years of age, and when under the influence of liquor was considered by all who knew him as being a dangerous character. He had lived the greater part of his life in the vicinity of Pontiac and was well known. North arrived in Pontiac on Sunday morning from Wing, where he had been working at his trade, and, meeting a few friends, started on a drunk. The next morning while walking north on Mill street, when near the corner of Madison, North dropped a revolver from his pocket, which was noticed by Alderman Joseph T. Kay, who informed City Marshal Hodge of the fact. Hodge started in pursuit of North, whom he overtook two blocks further on. The city marshal accosted North and demanded the revolver in his possession. North whipped out the revolver and without a word shot Hodge in the stomach. Hodge did not fall, but dealt North a blow over the head with his club and rushed at him. North fired again, but the bullet went wild. At that moment, George Hannaman came up; North and Hodge had clinched; Hannaman seized North, and all three came to the ground, when Hannaman got the revolver away from North. By this time, several others, attracted by the shots, came on the scene. North was turned over to the sheriff and Hodge removed to his home, where he expired at 12:30 the day following. The news of the shooting caused great excitement in Pontiac at the time and there was some talk of lynching, but better counsel prevailed and such talk soon died out. The grand jury at the October term found an indictment against North for murder and on Monday morning, November 17, 1890, the case went to trial, Judge Sample presiding, with the following jurors in the box: G. W. Madden, Charlotte; Cephas Coe, Long Point; W. S. Clark, Ancona; Thomas Mathis, Fairbury; George

Dykes, Long Point; Henry Jones, Reading; Joseph Brumfield and M. H. Gilman, Newtown; James Russell, Rowe; Charles H. Schrontz, Fairbury; Philip Hendershott, Pontiac, and William Schaffer, McDowell. The defense was conducted by C. C. Strawn, and A. C. Norton appeared for the people. The trial lasted for over a week and was hard fought on both sides. The jury received the case Wednesday, November 26, and after a few hours deliberation, brought in a verdict of guilty and fixed the penalty at death by hanging. Mr. Strawn made a motion for a new trial, and on hearing the evidence presented, Judge Sample overruled the motion, and Thursday, December 18, North was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, January 19, 1891. Judge Wilkin, of the supreme court, granted a supersedeas a few days prior to the date for the hanging of North, and after reviewing the evidence, granted a new trial. On Friday, January 8, 1892, North was arraigned in court, having expressed a desire to withdraw his plea of not guilty. This he did, and then entered a plea of guilty of manslaughter. Judge Tipton stated that he was prepared to dispose of the case at once, having examined the testimony and arguments of counsel on both sides, and was fully of the opinion that this was a case of manslaughter and not murder; that if the case was brought to trial again a jury would so decide. The question then in his mind was to determine on the sentence, which could not be less than one year and might extend to life; he reviewed the fact of North's suspense while for a year he was under the sentence of death and that this was a severe punishment. He said the responsibility of the length of time of punishment was wholly upon himself, and he had determined to make the term thirty-three years in the penitentiary, and it was so ordered.

On August 8, 1870, Michael Haley died from the effects of a blow received at the hands of Michael Whalen. Haley was section boss at Ocuya, and Whalen, with others, was at work under him. While they were unloading a gravel-train, some dispute occurred and Haley told Whalen that he had orders from the division superintendent of the Alton railroad to discharge any man who gave a disrespectful reply to him. Whalen told him that he had no such orders, which brought on a dispute, and Haley told him to put down his shovel, which Whalen interpreted to be equivalent to a discharge. Whalen



John P Cook

then sprang at Haley and struck him a blow on the head with the shovel which felled him to the ground. In the fall, Haley's head struck on the rail and fractured his skull, from the effects of which he died. Soon after the occurrence Whalen took his departure and was never heard from.

ONLY LEGAL HANGING.

The only legal hanging in the county was that of Johannes DeBoer, who was executed in the county jail at Pontiac on Wednesday, March 17, 1880. DeBoer plead guilty to the charge of murder. The crime was a most brutal one and occurred one mile south of Minonk in Woodford County, in the fall of 1879. The trial was held in the court house in Pontiac before Judge Blades at the January term, 1880, of circuit court, the suit having come to this county on a change of venue from Woodford County. From the evidence it was shown that DeBoer, aged 19 years, had met Ella Martin, aged 16 years, in a cut on the Illinois Central Railroad track one mile south of Minonk, had caught and choked her and cut her in seven places with his pocket knife, and left her, as he supposed, dead. She lay in a field, where he drew her, and recovered so far that the next day she crawled back to the railroad track and was found there by her brother. She lived eight days. There was intense excitement at the opening of court, as Pontiac was filled with citizens of this and adjoining counties, 100 being present from Minonk. So intense was the excitement that Gov Cullom had placed at the disposal of Sheriff Hunter, Company A, Ninth Battalion, National Guard. It was a novel sight, one never before seen in this county, to see a prisoner march from the jail into the court room between two files of soldiers, to prevent him from receiving violence from the infuriated mob. DeBoer was sentenced to be hanged on February 14, 1880. Later it was brought to the knowledge of the court that the time given was too short and the prisoner was again brought before the court and the date of his execution fixed for Wednesday, March 17, 1880. He was hanged in the county jail on this date.

CHAPTER XXIII.

A GOLD SEEKER'S REMINISCENCES.

EXPERIENCE OF A PARTY OF ARGONAUTS OF 1849—STORY OF THREE EXPEDITIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES—THE MINING EXPERIENCE SUCCESSFUL, BUT THE RETURNING GOLD-SEEKERS BECAME THE VICTIMS OF MEXICAN BANDITS AND MISSISSIPPI RIVER THIEVES—A THIRD EXPEDITION TURNS AWAY FROM PIKE'S PEAK TO THE PACIFIC COAST—LIST OF MEMBERS OF THESE SEVERAL EXPEDITIONS.

(By Henry C. Jones, Pontiac.)

FIRST EXPEDITION.—In the fall of 1848 and the following winter, there was great interest among the early settlers of Livingston County, as well as throughout the entire civilized world, concerning the wonderful discoveries of gold in California. The "gold fever" became an epidemic all over the Western country, and many of the most hardy and adventurous victims were carried off by the "yellow peril." This county, although sparsely settled, contributed its quota of these overland argonauts who "went the plains across" to the Pacific coast. In the spring of 1849, James Blake of Avoca, and Henry Jones and G. B. Foster of Owego, started out with an ox team on the perilous journey of 2,000 miles through an almost unexplored wilderness. The Indians were hostile from the Missouri river to the Pacific Ocean, and while many of the gold seekers were killed by the savages or perished on the way from disease or thirst and starvation, the contingent from this county landed safely in the Sacramento valley in the fall of 1849, and continued on their journey to the mines in northern California. The mines were rich, and in eighteen months the three partners—Blake, Jones and Foster—had accumulated over \$25,000 in gold. Jones and Blake had families in this county, and Foster's people lived in Pontiac, and having about as much gold as they could conveniently carry—not a very large fortune, but enough to have bought at that time an entire township of thirty-six sections of the best land in Livingston County, worth to-day over \$4,000,000—they began making preparations for the return trip. They went to San Francisco, and with

several other returning miners, engaged passage on a schooner to Panama. The passengers were so poorly fed and brutally treated by the officers and crew of the schooner that they revolted and compelled the captain to run the ship into the harbor of Acapulco, Mexico. The matter was taken up by the American consul at that port, and after a settlement with the captain, the vessel was allowed to continue her journey to Panama. The miners then bought fifteen horses, for riding and packing, bought food and camp equipage, engaged a guide and interpreter, and started over the mountains for the City of Mexico, over 200 miles distant. This was soon after the close of the war with Mexico, and there was very bitter feeling against the "gringos," as the Americans were called. The mountains through which the trail passed were infested with bandits and outlaws, and it was necessary for self protection to not only go well armed but to keep a vigilant guard over their treasure day and night. The gold belonging to the company from this county was divided into three parts, sewed up in buckskin bags, and Blake, Jones and Foster each took possession of a part to carry and protect on the journey. On the third day out from Acapulco, the trip so far having been surprisingly delightful, the men began to get careless and less vigilant, and Foster allowed himself to lag behind. Before he was aware of his dangerous position, he was surrounded by armed bandits, overcome, disarmed and robbed of his share of the gold. The robbers made a hasty retreat back over the trail, and by the time Foster could ride forward, overtake his comrades and give the alarm, the bandits had left the trail and entered the rocky, wooded canyons where their capture was impossible. The party then concluded that the best thing to do was to make all haste possible to reach the City of Mexico, and from that time on be more vigilant than ever. Six days after leaving Acapulco, the party arrived in the City of Mexico. There they discharged their guide and interpreter, and began making preparations to continue their journey to Vera Cruz, on the gulf of Mexico. By this time, one of the party had picked up enough of the Spanish language to make their wants known, and as the roads were better, they decided to dispense with the services of a guide and interpreter. After a rest of two days in

the capital of Mexico, they again started on their journey to Vera Cruz, over 300 miles distant. Without further adventure, they arrived at Vera Cruz in seven days. There they disposed of their horses and camp outfit, and engaged passage on a sailing vessel to New Orleans, and being favored with fine weather they made the trip across the gulf in six days. Arriving in New Orleans, the party went direct from the ship to the mint to deposit their gold for coinage, and to leave it there where it would be safe until they were ready to resume their journey to their homes in this county. Their stay in New Orleans was brief but exciting. After securing passage on a boat for St. Louis and getting their baggage on board, they went to the mint to get their money. They learned that their gold had not been coined, but that the dust and nuggets had been melted down to bricks, assayed and the value ascertained. The cashier at the mint informed the men that they could then have the coin for their gold bricks, and counted out and paid the party \$17,400 in new \$20 gold pieces. The three partners then counted out \$1,400, divided it among the three for the necessary expenses of the remainder of their journey, placed the balance in their canvas bags supplied by the mint, and started with the coin to the boat, which was to start up the river that night or the next morning. After boarding the boat, they went immediately to their state room, deposited the bags of coin in a strong trunk, and agreed that at least one of the party should be in the room with the trunk until they arrived at St. Louis. When supper was announced, Jones and Foster went to the dining room and left Blake to guard the trunk containing the money. When the two were almost through with their meal, they were surprised to see Blake come into the dining room. Jones and Foster at once jumped up from the table and hurried to their room. They found the door unlocked, the trunk broken open and the three bags of coin missing. The alarm was given and the officers of the boat notified that their state room had been robbed. The police were put on the trail of the two robbers who had been seen leaving the room carrying heavy loads and hurrying down the gang plank. The boat did not start until the next afternoon, and during the night and day following the robbery, every effort was made to cap-

ture the thieves, but without results, and the matter was left with the police, who never did anything. The men were anxious to get home, did not care to lose the passage money they had paid, and concluded to stay with the boat. The only excuse Blake could make for violating their agreement to guard the trunk was that he thought they were again in a civilized country and that there was no danger. Besides, he said, he was thirsty and hungry, and had locked the state room door, gone to the bar and from there to the dining room. The three men arrived at their homes a little over two years after starting for California, with only a few hundred dollars each, but rich in experience.

SECOND EXPEDITION.—Jones was dissatisfied with the results of his first trip to the gold mines of California, and in the spring of 1852 organized the second expedition of gold-seekers, and left Richmond, two miles east of Pontiac, with an ox team for the gold fields of the Pacific coast to make their fortunes. This second party consisted of Henry Jones, John Popejoy, Theodore Popejoy and Edwin Jones. Henry Jones having made the trip across the plains in 1849 and having experience with Indians on the way and afterwards in California, was made the leader of the party. There had been such a large emigration across the plains in 1849, '50 and '51, that the road had become plain and easy to follow and the Indians made less trouble. This party met with but few adventures and arrived at the mines the fall following. They at once located mines and were quite successful as gold miners. After two and a half years spent in the gold mines, Henry Jones and Edwin Jones returned via Panama and New York to Pontiac in 1855, and built the first brick building ever erected in Pontiac and engaged in general merchandising. John and Theodore Popejoy never returned to this county, but remained in the mines on the Pacific coast.

THIRD EXPEDITION.—In 1858-59 another gold craze spread over the entire country, and while the fever was not as wide-spread nor the excitement as intense as that created by the discovery of gold in California ten years before, yet throughout the Western states and territories many thousands of fortune hunters prepared to visit the newly discovered gold fields. The discovery was made near Pike's Peak, in Western Kansas, (now Colorado,) and fabulous stories about the great quantities of the yellow metal

that could be shoveled up in the new mines were printed in the newspapers throughout the land. Of course the young men of Livingston County, as well as many of the older ones, became afflicted with the contagion, and began to look about for ways and means to make the trip to the Pike's Peak gold mines. Judge Jones of Pontiac, being an experienced gold miner, and having become familiar with the route across the plains, was persuaded to resign the office of County Judge and pilot a third expedition from this county in the search for gold. This party, which left Pontiac on the 6th day of April, 1859, with two ox teams, was made up of the following named persons: Judge Henry Jones, Robert Aeri, Jesse Green, C. L. Paige, J. E. Morrow, Isaac Aeri, S. L. Frost, H. C. Jones, Charles Hughes, William Earp, Elias Thompson, Lyman Smith, Eli Morlage, Joe Millham, D. Conklin and Daniel McArthur. Later the party was joined by John Johnson, Oliver Johnson and William Cherry of Rooks Creek, with their ox team. The party from Pontiac was governed by a set of rules, one of which was that every man should walk the entire distance, if he was able to walk, and carry his gun, if he had one. It was known to be a dangerous practice to climb in and out of a wagon with a loaded gun. Another rule was that the men should not shoot at or molest stock or poultry while passing through the settlements, nor fire at an Indian without orders from the Judge. This rule was necessary because reckless shooting had involved previous expeditions in serious trouble. Each one had his work allotted to him, and the Judge saw that all performed their respective duties. The expedition crossed the Mississippi river at Fort Madison, Iowa, and the Missouri at St. Joseph, Mo. There were no railroads west of St. Joseph and Kansas City at that time, and after leaving the Missouri river there were but few settlements. The broad prairies of Kansas and Nebraska were still the hunting grounds of the "untutored savage." Deer, antelope and countless thousands of buffalo still roamed the verdant plains. In May, the roads having become more settled, the party made rapid progress, considering the motive power, and by the exercise of caution and vigilance met with no trouble from marauding bands of Indians, as many other parties did. After passing Fort Kearney, Nebraska, many gold seekers were met returning from Pike's Peak, declaring that the stories about the great

gold discoveries in Western Kansas were unfounded; that there was no gold there, etc., etc. So many of these disappointed people were met, a great many of whom had never reached the mines, all telling the same doleful story, that some of the Livingston County delegation began to feel discouraged, but they continued on their journey. The party reached the crossing of the South Platte, where the Pike's Peak road branched off from the old California road, and there they went into camp. For three days they met and talked with disappointed gold seekers, returning from the mines, and then discussed among themselves as to what course they should take—go on to Pike's Peak or cross the river and continue the journey on to California, where there was no doubt about the gold. It was agreed finally to take a vote on the question, with the result that all voted to go on to the Pacific Coast. The next day the party replenished their stock of provisions by purchasing supplies from returning gold hunters, and in the evening crossed the Platte river and pulled out for a long, tedious and dangerous trip across the mountains and plains to California. Many adventures and dangers were met with by the expedition that would be tedious and out of place to narrate here, and will be omitted. In October, just six months after starting from Pontiac, the party arrived at the mines in Northern California. In 1861 Robert Aeri, Isaac Aeri and C. L. Paige returned, via Panama and New York, to Pontiac. In 1862, J. E. Morrow and Jesse Green returned and in 1863, H. C. Jones returned, via Nicaragua, on a visit, and later returned to stay, all having been reasonably successful in the mines. Judge Jones and the other members of the expedition remained in California. Soon after his return from California, C. L. Paige enlisted in the 20th Illinois Volunteers, and was killed in battle at Atlanta, Ga. Isaac Aeri enlisted and served over three years, and was through the siege of Vicksburg. On his return to Pontiac, J. E. Morrow enlisted and marched with Sherman to the Atlantic Ocean, having previously walked from Pontiac to the Pacific. After the war was over, Mr. Morrow was elected circuit clerk for Livingston County, and after the expiration of his term of office he organized the National Bank of Pontiac, and was its president until his death. Isaac Aeri, Jesse Green and H. C. Jones are still (1908) respected citizens of Pontiac. It may not be known, even among

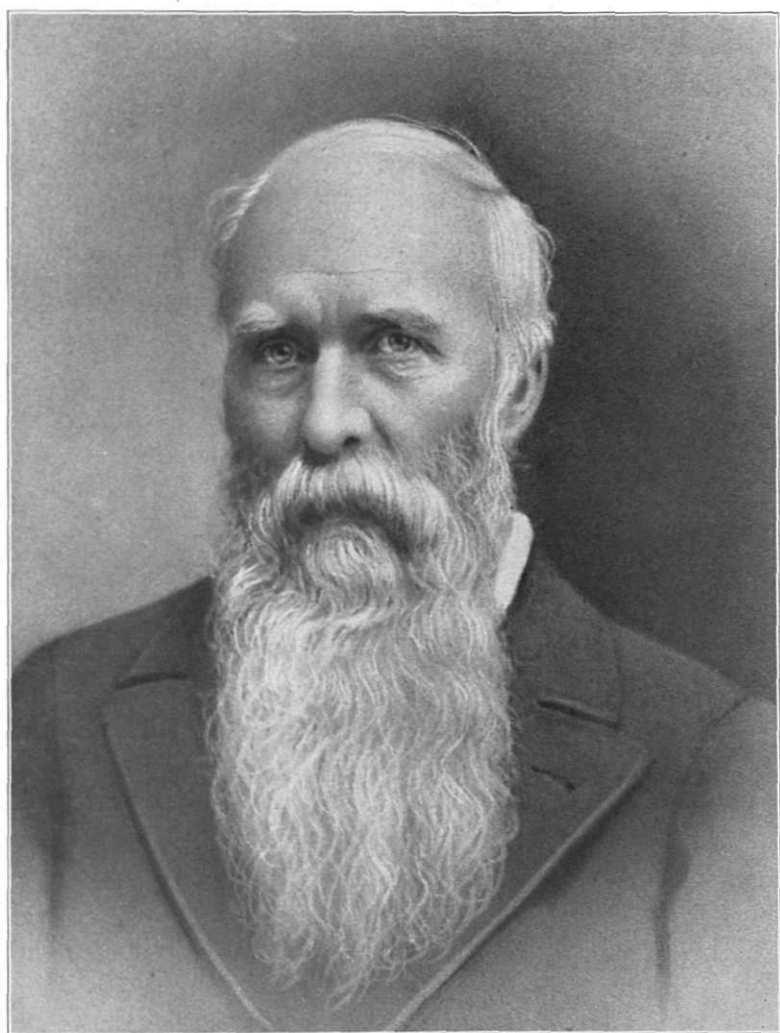
his most intimate friends, that Isaac Aeri is a veteran of two wars. In 1860 a bitter war raged between the gamblers, saloon keepers and their following, of Shasta, Cal., on one side, and the gold miners on the other, over some rich gold mines. Mr. Aeri, of course, was with the miners, and taking his trusty rifle in one hand and his life in the other, he went into the rifle pits, built on what is still known as Bunker Hill, and there assisted in the defeat of the enemy, over 100 strong, and well armed, when they made an attack on the miners, and helped drive them back to the city. It is generally believed that an ox team cannot be successfully managed unless the driver is profuse in the use of profanity, but Jesse Green drove an ox team from Livingston County to California without using a profane word that anybody ever heard.

CHAPTER XXIV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CASE—STORY OF THE TRIAL OF JAMES STOUT FOR AIDING A FUGITIVE SLAVE—STOUT CONDUCTS HIS OWN CASE AND IS ACQUITTED, WHILE HIS ASSOCIATES ARE CONVICTED—SOME FIRST THINGS—THE FIRST LAND CONVEYANCE AND FIRST MARRIAGE IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY.

The early settlers of Livingston County all remember James Stout, who came to Pontiac in the year 1858. Mr. Stout was a lawyer by profession, and while living in Ottawa practiced considerable in this county, where he was always referred to as an "Abolitionist," which was in those days a name applied to all who in any way sympathized with negroes and were conductors on the "Under-Ground Railroad," the object of which railroad was to send all runaway slaves from the Southern states to freedom in Canada. Mr. Stout was one of the "conductors" on the main line of the road leading through Livingston County, and while assisting a negro boy by the name of "Jim," to escape from his master, was, with several others, arrested for the crime, taken to Ottawa and tried before Judge Caton. Mr. Stout plead his own case.



John Cooper

and was set free. The jury also disagreed on the conviction of Mr. Stout's brother, Joseph, but John Hossack was convicted and sentenced for the part he took in the affair. Mr. Stout was connected with the Pontiac Sentinel for many years, and sold the paper to H. C. Jones in 1869 and left for the West, where he served the Government as Receiver of Public Monies at Boise City, Idaho. So many different stories of Mr. Stout's connection with this now celebrated case have been told, that it is thought best to produce that part of the proceedings which relates to him in full.

On Monday, January 2, 1860, three prominent citizens of Ottawa—Attorney James Stout, Dr. Joseph Stout and John Hossack—were arrested by a United States officer, charged with aiding in the rescue of a fugitive slave in Ottawa in the month of October. They were taken to Chicago, and confined in jail there, and two of them—Joseph Stout and John Hossack—utterly refused to give bail, James Stout gave bonds in \$1,500 and was released. The following are the facts in relation to the rescue:

Early in the fall of 1859, a negro named James Gray, better known as "Jim," ran away from Missouri, not being possessed of that intense love for the domestic institution and his white relatives which is usually attributed to slaves. He made his way unmolested until he reached Sandoval, Marion County, then well known as the place where kidnaping was considered a virtue. Here he was knocked down and cruelly abused by three kidnapers, who endeavored, not knowing his real condition, to seize him, take him to Missouri and sell him. An old man named Roots, who observed the brutal attack, demanded of them to give him up, threatening he would prosecute them as kidnapers. They ran him out of the county, and finally, afraid of the threats of Roots, lodged him in the Union County jail. Roots, who had followed them, then went to Springfield to get out a writ of habeas corpus, but after consultation went to Ottawa, where, with the legal assistance of Cook & Glover, of that city, a writ was prayed for and granted by Judge Caton. Word was sent to the sheriff of Union County, but that functionary sent back an insulting and grossly vulgar letter. Before the twenty days expired, however, he thought it best to give up the negro and sent him up by the jailor.

On the twentieth of October, 1860, the trial

was had and the negro was discharged upon the habeas corpus but was immediately remanded upon a writ out of Springfield, and the negro was ordered sent there for trial by Judge Caton. While the opinion of Judge Caton was being delivered silence reigned throughout the crowded courtroom. When the Judge had finished, Stout arose to speak, but Judge Caton ordered him to sit down, stating that "No breach of the law would be tolerated." Stout answered that "none was intended," and immediately made a motion that "we form ourselves into a committee of the whole to carry this slave back to bondage." The question was received by the crowded court room with a tremendous "aye," and during the excitement following, a passage was formed through the room and the negro went—not back, but out, where he found a carriage in which he went to the depot of the underground railroad. In twenty-four hours he was in the land of freedom.

The case against Stout for his part in the affair came to trial at the April term of the United States court, and the following proceedings were had, which relates more particularly to Mr. Stout. He was a lawyer by profession, refused to employ counsel, and stated he would conduct his defense himself. The court awarded him that privilege. The evidence of the first three or four witnesses was about the same as that given upon the two former trials. The defendant, who appeared to be a man of ability, but of a very nervous and excitable temperament, caused some amusement and amazement by the unique and original manner in which he conducted the cross-examination of the witnesses, and the naive manner in which he disregarded the traditions of the law books, and the rules of practice hitherto observed in court. To such an extent was this carried that the prosecuting attorney, Fitch, remarked, after the prisoner had made one of his most characteristic speeches:

"The court must perceive that the defendant is laboring under an aberration of mind."

Mr. Stout.—Then, sir, as an honest man, it is your duty to prosecute me no longer. If you know anything, you certainly know that. If you have read any law at all.

The court here interrupted the defendant, and advised him to refrain from irrelevant remarks.

Mr. Stout.—I was replying, sir, to a very severe remark from the prosecuting attorney.

The defendant then produced a plan of the

court house at Ottawa, and asked the witness for the government, Andrew Anderson, to point out upon it the position of the negro and the defendant at the time of the alleged rescue. The witness had said that he had heard the prisoner say, "Shut the door," and on this and other points Mr. Stout examined him at some length, displaying considerable acumen and great excitability. Another witness, a German, named Meyer, testified that all the parties concerned in the rescue were Republicans, or as he called them, "Abolitionists."

The Prisoner.—Do you know them?

Witness.—No, sir.

The Prisoner.—How could you tell, then, that they were Abolitionists or Republicans?—Can you tell them by their faces?

Witness.—I can generally judge them. They don't look like Democrats.

The Prisoner.—Thank God, they don't!

After the testimony of Mr. Phillips, the owner of the negro, Jim, the following cross-examination took place.

Prisoner.—You said you knew the father of this negro, Jim?

Witness.—Yes, sir.

Prisoner.—How do you know he was his father?

Witness.—I don't know it, only by report.

Prisoner.—Are slaves married in your country?

Witness.—Sometimes.

Prisoner.—Were the father and mother of this negro married?

Witness.—No.

Prisoner.—Have you paid any money to help this prosecution?

Witness.—Not a dime.

Prisoner.—Have you any feelings about this prosecution?

Witness.—I feel like a man who has been robbed.

Prisoner.—Robbed of what?

Witness.—A man.

Prisoner.—A man! A man robbed of a man? Do you?

Witness.—Yes, sir; a man worth \$1,000.

Prisoner.—Did you say, where you saw the negro go off in the carriage, "There he goes—let him go—he ain't worth a quarter?"

Witness.—No.

Prisoner.—Did you not?

Witness.—Yes, I don't know but I did.

The evidence for the government being com-

pleted, Mr. Stout stated that he should introduce no testimony for his defense. Prosecuting Attorney Fitch summed up the case for the government. He argued that the statements made by the prisoner that he "had sent the negro back to slavery," which statements were made at the time of the rescue, weighed against rather than in favor of him. If the statement were true, the defendant had not only violated the United States law, but the statute of the State of Illinois also, and robbed himself of the excuse which he otherwise could urge, of pity, humanity, and love of liberty. If the statements were false of course it was of no value. The facts in the case were plain—they had been decided in the former cases—they did not admit of doubt in this case. The jury, with but one exception belonged to the same party organization as did the prisoner, and the prosecuting attorney rejoiced at the fact. Too much had been said of Northern fanaticism and unwillingness to enforce the laws when such enforcement clashed with their political opinions, and he rejoiced at the opportunity which was thus afforded to this jury to prove such charges a slander and a libel upon Northern honor and Northern manhood.

Mr. Stout then proceeded to make his argument in his own defense. He said he would speak plainly, and just as a man would work a farm. The government's attorney has insinuated that he felt great pain in conducting the case, but he could have avoided all that. He says he feels pain because he has before him a man whose intellect is shattered. This was an insult, for which that young man should receive, at the speaker's hands, a deserved rebuke. "I had asked the clerk to issue a subpoena for God Almighty. This might have seemed irreverent, but was so only in appearance. I wished God Almighty to testify to what was in my heart; as to my craziness, that is surely in my favor. You will surely not send a crazy man to the penitentiary. A gentleman came to me last night and said, 'Oh, let this thing go, and you will get off light.' Now I don't intend to get off light. I intend to get off heavy, and for the benefit of the young gentleman whom the government has imported from Indiana to prosecute me." The speaker went on to read extracts from Mr. Fitch's argument, and to comment upon them in almost original, wild and humorous manner. He was occasionally rather too broad and touched too heavily upon personalities. In replying



S. J. Cooper

to some rebukes from the judge, he complimented that dignitary upon his fine personal appearance and stated that, as the organ of firmness was very largely developed upon his honored head, he was afraid of him. He based his defense mainly upon the fact that he was in the same company with Judge Caton, and like him advocated the return of the negro to slavery. He also argued that no evidence had been introduced to convict him of the steps for a rescue taken prior to that event. He said he was not able to stand the penalty of the law; pecuniarily he could not, morally he did not want to. If he was imprisoned it would kill him, and although this was not in evidence it was something that ought to be considered a little.

Mr. Stout then made the following point of law: The constitution of the United States provides that the laws of the several states shall be received as evidence, when authenticated in the manner to be afterwards designated by Congress; Congress afterwards enacted that the laws of one state should be received as evidence in another state, and not otherwise; the government in this case had not produced any law of Missouri, authenticated by the seal of that state, authorizing slavery; consequently there was no evidence, in the eye of constitutional law, that the man, Jim, was rightfully held in Missouri as a slave, and the presumption was that he was free.

Mr. Fitch then closed for the government.

A few days later, under the heading of "James Stout Acquitted," the Pontiac Sentinel published the following: "Mr. James Stout, one of the Ottawa rescuers, whose trial and remarkable defense by himself we published the other day, has been acquitted. He disclaimed the aid of lawyers, conducted his own case, and like a stump-tailed bull in fly-time, charged round among the high grass and fought his own flies, and came out all right. He was the only one of the rescuers who has been acquitted."

Dr. Joseph Stout, Hossack and King, who were arrested with James Stout for complicity in the affair, were found guilty and in September taken before the United States court in Chicago to receive sentence. Mr. Hossack was fined \$100 and ten days in jail; Dr. Stout \$50 and ten days in jail; C. B. King \$10 and one day in jail. The costs in Dr. Stout's and Mr. Hossack's cases amounted to nearly \$2,500 each, which had to be

paid before they were released. King entered a plea of *nolle contendere*, and had no trial, his costs being less than \$50.

FIRST REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE.

The first conveyance of real estate in this county was by warranty deed whereby Benjamin Darnall and wife, Fanny, of La Salle County, this state, on October 15th, 1836, "for and in consideration of one hundred dollars to us paid by Garret M. Blue, of McLean County, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and conveyed unto the said Garret M. Blue, his heirs and assigns, the west half of the southwest quarter of section number fourteen, in Township twenty-eight, Range four, east of the third principal meridian, (Rooks Creek Township) situated in the County of McLean and State of Illinois."

(At that time, Livingston County was a part of McLean County, this county not being organized until 1837.)

FIRST MARRIAGE IN THE COUNTY.

The first marriage in the county was that of Williamson Spence and Mary Darnall. The parents of the bride (Mr. and Mrs. Martin Darnall) were the first settlers in the county, the father of the groom (Malachi Spence) coming here one year later, both settling in Belle Prairie Township. The age of the groom was 23 years and the bride was in her 17th year. The marriage took place on June 4th, 1837, the ceremony being performed by Rev. John Darnall, a Baptist minister, an uncle of the bride.

In the archives of the county clerk's office at the court house, we find the marriage license granted to this couple, couched in the following language:

"I hereby certify that license and permission is *day* given to celebrate a marriage between Williamson (the name Spence is omitted) and Mary Darnall, this 29th day of May, 1837. A. W. Beard, Clk. C. C. C." (Clerk county commissioner's court.)

Rev. Darnall makes his return to the county clerk, certifying that he united this couple in marriage on May 4th, 1837. (This latter date is a mistake.)

The certificate was returned on June 28th, and registered on July 6th, 1837.

RECORDS OF BRANDS.

In the early days, before there were any fences, stock of all kind roamed at large upon our broad prairies. The cattle were of the common kind, and when they become separated and get mixed with other herds, it was hard to separate them. There was more or less litigation in consequence. Finally in the latter '30s, a record of "marks" or "brands" was kept in the office of the county clerk. The first one filed for record is as follows:

"By this I certify that on the 18th day of May, A. D. 1837, James C. McMillan applied to have his mark recorded, which is as follows: A smooth crop of the left ear. Also William McMillan on the same day applied to have his mark recorded, which is as follows: A smooth crop of the right ear.—A. W. Beard, Clerk."

This record was kept until May 11th, 1874, when it was discontinued. The final one was issued to H. L. Marsh & Co. of Fairbury, being a brand for hogs—two round holes in right ear punched with a No. 14 harness maker's punch.

CHAPTER XXV.

TOWNSHIP HISTORY.

INDIVIDUAL SKETCHES OF THE SEVERAL TOWNSHIPS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY—FIRST SETTLERS WITH INCIDENTS OF LOCAL HISTORY—SKETCHES OF VILLAGES—LOCAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL HISTORY—EARLY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND BUSINESS MEN—REMINISCENCES OF UNDERGROUND RAILROAD DAY.

The following chapter presents an individual history of each of the thirty townships comprised within the limits of Livingston County, the same being arranged in alphabetical order as to names of townships with a view to convenience for purpose of reference. In it will be found much of interest in connection with general State and local history.

AMITY TOWNSHIP.

Amity Township is one of the best watered and best timbered in the county. The Vermillion river runs through the center, from southeast to

northwest; Rooks creek comes in from the south and forms a junction with the Vermillion near the center; Scattering Point creek flows from the southeast and empties into the Vermillion; Mud creek flows through the northeastern part, emptying into the Vermillion in Newtown Township. Nearly all the settlers who located here during the '30s, were from Ohio. Fully one-half of the township was timber land, but in some localities the trees have been cut down and the land is now under cultivation. The Wabash road crosses the township from northwest to southeast, cutting off about six sections from the northeast corner. The township in 1869, by a vote of 90 to 9 against, voted for the issuing of bonds to aid in building the road. The meaning of the word after which the township is named, is friendship or good-will.

Three Ohioans—Thomas N. Reynolds, Samuel K. Reynolds and Elmer Breckenridge left their native state in 1833, and were the first to make a permanent settlement in this township. A few years later, the wife of one of the Reynolds died, and her remains were laid to rest in a coffin made from a walnut log cut from the timber. Breckenridge lived here until 1843, when he removed farther west. Thomas Prindle arrived in 1834 from the Buckeye state. Besides tilling a small tract of land, he was also a blacksmith. He died in 1845. Six more Ohioans arrived in the spring of 1835—Cornelius W. Reynolds, John W. Reynolds, Joseph Reynolds, Stephen Reynolds (brothers), William Springer and Thomas Campbell.

Cornelius W. Reynolds was a physician. Soon after the county was organized (in 1837) he moved to Pontiac, and when the postoffice was established he was appointed postmaster. He also conducted a small store, the record of the county commissioners' court showing under date of July 11, 1838, that he was granted a license to keep a store for one year upon payment of \$5. In 1837, he was a candidate for county surveyor but was defeated by Simeon S. Mead. In 1839, he was elected recorder and county court clerk. He afterward removed to Ottawa.

Joseph Reynolds was elected sheriff in May, 1837, the election being held at the home of Andrew McMillan, in Rooks Creek Township, to serve until the next regular election in August, 1838. In December, 1837, Mr. Rey-

nolds having failed to receive his commission as sheriff, the court appointed him collector of taxes. At the October term, 1839, of court, he presented his settlement with the county treasurer, and presented a receipt for \$68.71. He was again a candidate for sheriff in 1838, but was defeated by Nicholas Hefner.

John W. Reynolds built a grist-mill after his arrival. It was a primitive affair, being nothing more than a corn cracker. It was well patronized by the neighborhood. In 1840 he was appointed school commissioner by the county commissioners' court, and qualified under a bond of \$12,000. He was one of the first justices of the peace in the voting precinct, and married the first couple in the township—Isaac Painter and Nancy Springer.

In 1836, Henry Morris, Thomas Arman, and their brother-in-law, William Reynolds, arrived from Indiana. The former settled on section 17. He was a Whig and a member of the United Brethren church. He preached in the cabins in the neighborhood each Sunday until his death, September 11, 1843. Reynolds went to Oregon in a few years and finally located in Iowa. Arman remained in the settlement until his death.

Samuel Boyer arrived the same year from Pennsylvania, bringing his farming implements by boat down the Ohio, up the Mississippi, and thence up the Illinois to Hennepin. He was a very religious man, and services were held at his cabin for many years. In 1841, he was elected school commissioner, and re-elected in 1843. He died November 2, 1852.

The settlement was increased in 1837 by the arrival of Thomas Louderback and Uriah Springer, and their families. The former located on what is now called Scattering Point, and the latter on South Point. Both were natives of Ohio, although Mr. Louderback had lived in Vermillion County, this state, six years before coming here. All of his family are dead but one. Levi Louderback, the surviving son, is still a resident of the township. He is 76 years of age and has lived in the township continuously for 71 years. The elder Louderback died in 1854.

Uriah Springer was elected county commissioner in 1838, the other commissioners being Albert Moore and William Popejoy. In drawing for seats, Mr. Springer, who was absent, drew the three years' term, Moon for two

years, and Popejoy for one year. This court had more bills to pay than its predecessor. Among them was one to Henry Weed for "\$4.12½ for paper, sand and ink, used by him as circuit clerk up to this time." Just how much of it was for sand, the bill fails to mention. He was also elected associate justice of the county. He erected a flouring mill, but it did not prove successful.

Walter Cornell located here in 1839. He was a native of Rhode Island. He worked a short time on the Illinois and Michigan canal as engineer before he came here. In 1853, he was elected treasurer and collector of the county, and re-elected in 1855, and afterward elected school commissioner. He was elected supervisor in 1864, and held the office of township assessor for eleven years. The town of Cornell was laid out and named by him in 1871, and he was the first postmaster.

Moses and Hiram Allen settled in the township in 1837, being natives of Ohio. The former held the office of supervisor for five terms, 1859 to 1863.

Amos Edwards landed here on September 9, 1839, with a lumber wagon and two horses, by which means he transported his family and household goods from the state of New York. He was elected county surveyor in 1844, serving four years, and re-elected for a second term. At the next election, the candidate would not or could not qualify, and he was called upon to fill the office made vacant. He cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson. He was the first postmaster in the township, losing his political scalp in 1861. In the early days he taught school in his home, receiving as compensation 50 cents per day.

Phillip Nigh set foot on Amity soil in 1840, and took up a tract of land in section 28. Nigh Chapel and a cemetery are located near the old homestead. Besides holding various township offices, he officiated as postmaster at Rooks Creek. Himself and wife were prominently connected with the Methodist Protestant church. He uniformly voted the Republican ticket.

Charles Earp located here in 1842. He was a native of England, but came to America with his parents in early childhood. He died October 7, 1873.

James Bradley and family came here in November, 1844. They were from Nauvoo, this state. They lived in the Mormon settlement,

were members of that sect, although, unlike Brigham Young, they were utterly opposed to polygamy. He was elected one of the county court justices in 1849. The county court under the new constitution was organized December 31 of this year. At this time first appeared the constitutional clause in the oath of office: "I do solemnly swear that I have not fought a duel, nor sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which might have been the death of either party, nor been a second to either party, nor in any way aided or assisted in such duel, nor been knowingly the bearer of such challenge since the adoption of this constitution, nor will be engaged in such duel during my continuance in office." Mr. Bradley died December 30, 1862. His son, Joseph, is still a resident of the township.

John Mitchell was the first Norwegian to locate in the township, arriving with his wife in 1853. He first took up a claim of forty acres. The third year he was taken sick, not being able to work for two years, and was obliged to sell everything he had to pay his doctor bill. When he died, February 9, 1896, he owned nearly 1,000 acres, all under cultivation. Mr. Mitchell for many years was called "The Norwegian King," a name given by his generosity to his fellow countrymen, many of whom settled in adjoining townships in later years.

Nathan Springer settled here in 1851, coming from Vermillion County, this state, where he had lived for twenty years. A year later he moved to Long Point township, locating on section 25.

Thomas Gregory and wife arrived in the fall of 1855. Both were natives of England and came to this township the same year they landed in America. Mr. Gregory was a Protestant Methodist minister and labored as such for over thirty years. He was in the Union army eleven months as a member of Co. C. 129th Illinois Infantry, organized in this county, and was discharged on account of disability incurred while serving as a cook in the hospital.

Calvin Blue first came to this township in 1848, although he did not make it his home until later. He served in the Civil War under command of General Thomas. He was school director of the township nine years and constable eighteen years. John Lucas came here in 1855. Among those who located here in 1856 were William P. Davis, Morris Foley, James H. Hayes, William McVay, and Presley Lucas. Reuben

Long and Eben Perry were also among the earlier settlers. The latter was born in Pontiac in 1843.

The first school house was erected in 1840 on section 16. The logs for the building were cut and hewn from the timber by the settlers, and the building put together by them on the mutual assistance plan. The first teacher in this "academy" was Miss Elizabeth Miller. It was a subscription school of three months, and the tuition was \$1.50 per term. The branches taught were reading, writing and arithmetic. The teacher's salary was \$2.00 per week, and it is said she was required to make goose-quills for her scholars.

VILLAGE OF CORNELL.

Cornell is situated in Amity Township. The Vermillion river runs nearly half a mile within the center of the town. The village owes its name to the founder, Walter B. Cornell. Upon the completion of the Chicago and Paducah railroad, now known as the Streator branch of the Wabash, he laid out the plat of the town on June 15, 1871, and named it Cornell. Two days later, William D. Blake, his neighbor on the south, platted an adjoining section of his farm and named it Amity. The strife for supremacy was carried on for several years, but the only evidence of the conflict now remaining is two beautiful parks—North park, on the original site of Cornell, and South park in Amity. At one time, lots in Cornell were worth more on the market than in either of its neighbors, Pontiac or Streator. The village was incorporated in 1873, and the question of licensing saloons came up before the people and has been the main point at issue at the village elections ever since with varying results. The first board of trustees were Henry Cornell, Joseph Rucker, George Bradley, John Withrow, James Pond and Jason Curtis. The population of the village is estimated at 600. It is connected with the local and long distance telephone line, and is well provided with lighting, having ten arc lights and 250 incandescent lights. The village has some cement sidewalks and about ten miles of board walks. The churches are the Methodist, a frame building, with a seating capacity of 300. The Baptists have a neat frame church building, costing \$1,600, the Catholic church is also a frame structure. The Odd Fellows, Modern Wood-



J. B. Corbett

men, Court of Honor, Daughters of Rebekah, Grand Army of the Republic, and Woman's Relief Corps have flourishing lodges. The Odd Fellows erected a two-story brick building in 1907, the lower floor being used for a store and the upper floor for lodge purposes. The major portion of the business houses in the village are built of brick. A coal mine, operated by the Phoenix Mining Company, is located one mile north of the village. The village school has three departments, and its graduates pass the eighth grade county examination. The Cornell Journal, a weekly newspaper, is published by A. E. Tiffany. Three elevators handle the grain.

AVOCA TOWNSHIP.

Avoca is known as Township 27, north range 6, east of the third principal meridian. The township is about one-fifth timber to four-fifths prairie. It is bounded on the north by Owego, on the east by Pleasant Ridge, on the south by Indian Grove, on the west by Eppards Point. This and Indian Grove Township composed one election precinct until 1853, when they were separated. The name Avoca was given the township by Nicholas Hefner, and means "the meeting of the waters," the two branches of the Vermillion river uniting in this township.

The first permanent settler in this township was Isaac Jordan, who came with his wife from Brown County, this state, in December, 1830. There were but two other families in the county—that of Martin Darnall, who had located in Belle Prairie Township, some ten miles to the southwest, a few weeks previous and Frederick Rook, who located in Rooks Creek Township, west of Pontiac, Mr. Jordan's wife was the first white woman in the township.

Four families settled here in the following spring: William Popejoy, John Hanneman, Uriah Blue and Abner Johnson. On May 5, 1832, William McDowell and family, consisting of his wife and six children, John, Woodford, James, Hiram, Joseph and Mrs. Joel Tucker, arrived from Indiana. The McDowells at once proceeded to erect their cabin. Their principal tool used in its construction was an axe. They brought with them a few panes of glass for a window, and in this particular they had the advantage of their neighbors. The boards which furnished the material for the door and window

casing were purchased of the Kickapoo Indians, then located at Oliver's Grove, who had hewn them out for some purpose of their own, but were induced to part with them for a small supply of ammunition.

In the latter part of May of this year occurred the outbreaking of the Black Hawk War, and the entire settlement took their departure for their former homes, returning later in the fall.

When the McDowells first came here they brought with them some young cattle belonging to a friend in Indiana and which they proposed to "break to work" with them. After they had become well "broken," they were returned to their owner. Jordan remained but a few years, returning to Brown County. Hanneman died in the fall of 1832. This was one of the first deaths in the county, as well as the first to occur in this township. His coffin was made of timber split out of a walnut tree, and hewed as smooth as possible with an axe.

In the fall of 1832 Charles Brooks and John Wright and the latter's sister, Mary, arrived from Indiana. On July 1, the following year, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, being the first white child born in the township.

In 1833 the settlement was increased by the arrival of Isaac Burgit, M. B. Miller and Platt Thorn from New York state and Elijah Thompson and family from Indiana. Miller and Thorn remained but a few years when they removed to Ottawa. Thompson settled on what, after the lands were surveyed, turned out to be a school section. He sold out his improvements and removed to Kankakee. His daughter, Ann, was married September, 1833 to Harvey Rounsaville, William McDowell, who had been elected a justice of the peace a few weeks before, performing the ceremony. This was the first marriage in the township and Mr. McDowell's first official act in tying matrimonial knots.

The first sermon preached in Avoca Township was at the McDowell cabin in the spring of 1833, by Rev. James Eckels. The first religious society was organized the following fall in the same cabin by Father Royal, one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of the state. It was a kind of mission, and was embraced in the old preacher's circuit, which extended from the Illinois river east to the state line, and from Ottawa to the Mackinaw river.

David Terhune and Harrison Fletcher made

their appearance in 1834. Fletcher was the first blacksmith, and opened a shop on his claim late in the winter of this year.

Col. George Johnson came here from Ohio in 1835. He had served in the war of 1812, though not as a colonel, which title was more honorary than otherwise. He died in 1859. Nathan Popejoy and James Blake settled here the following year and Isaac Wilson in 1837. The first case to be tried by a jury in the court house, then only a log cabin, was a suit wherein Mr. Wilson was the plaintiff and Nathan Popejoy the defendant. Mr. Wilson and Popejoy were members of the first grand jury. This year (1837) the county was organized and William Popejoy was elected one of the members of the county commissioner's court. In 1839 Isaac Burgit was elected the first coroner.

In 1840, Joseph C. Morrison, Asa DeMoss and James DeMoss came with their families. The latter DeMoss was a carpenter and helped to erect the first mill in Pontiac, and also assisted in building the first court house.

This same year the first postoffice was established, and was called Avoca. Nicholas Hefner was the first postmaster. The office was where the village of Avoca was afterward located and was on the mail route between Ottawa and Danville. The office was discontinued in 1864.

William Wilson moved here in 1844 and James Glennin and John Ridinger came in 1846. The three Tanner brothers—James, Robert and John—arrived the following year, and located on the north half of section 17, on farms adjoining each other. Ridinger moved to Saunemin Township in 1848.

Minor Rogers and Thomas G. McDowell, settled on claims in 1848. The latter was a younger brother of William McDowell. He located on the prairie, about a half mile from the timber, which was the first actual settlement made outside of the timber.

The McDowells, Isaac, Oliver, William, Nelson and Mary, and their mother settled in the fall of 1850. Isaac McDowell had prior to this spent the winter of 1845-46 in teaching school here. In 1854 he engaged in the dry goods business in Pontiac and years later he returned to the farm. He moved to Fairbury in 1864.

The same year, Dr. C. B. Ostrander and wife arrived from Chicago, where they had lived for nine years. Until the early '60s he was the

only physician in this locality, his practice extending to the extreme east and southern portions of the county. He later removed to Fairbury. Both are now dead.

During the '50s the township was rapidly being settled, some locating in the timber along the river, others on the prairie. Joel Tucker came here in 1851; James K. Robinson in 1852; Thomas N. Smith, Isaac Umphenour, M. M. Pearson, Ell Pearson and John Shaw in 1853; John M. Zook and John Bodley in 1854; R. B. Foster, Thomas Winslow, George Weider, and Robert Spafford, in 1855; William Fugate, Aaron Shaw, Aaron Weider, John Brownson, G. B. Brownson, J. J. Trullinger, J. F. Adams in 1856; Bernhard Strobel, A. P. Champlin, Daniel Street in 1857; Squire Linscott and William Smith in 1859.

The first church in the township was completed in 1857. The church building was 32x50 feet, 16 feet high between the floor and ceiling, lathed, plastered, and originally painted white, black walnut seats and pulpit. The lumber for the main part of the church was taken from the oak and walnut trees growing on the banks of the Vermillion river in the township. They were cut and hauled to the steam mill of McDowell Brothers in Avoca (in its palmy days), and sawed into lumber suitable for the erection of the church. The house was enclosed by Alexander Harbison (the first settler in Sullivan Township) in 1856, and in 1857 it was completed by G. B. and J. M. Brownson of Fairbury. The church was named by Mrs. Sarah McDowell, who was the first settler in the township, she and her husband, William McDowell, having settled near the site of the structure in 1832. Their remains are quietly resting in the Avoca cemetery. Mrs. McDowell, though entirely blind for twenty years, was one of the active workers in planning and helping, with her means at hand, to erect and complete the church of her choice. She being the oldest settler, person and church member, hence it was left to her to name, and she very appropriately named it the "Pioneer Methodist Episcopal Church." It was dedicated by the Rev. Zeddick Hall, then presiding elder of the Methodist Church, on August 2, 1857. The trustees were John McDowell, Samuel G. Crull, Smith D. Hinman, James Tanner and Woodford G. McDowell. Rev. Watson was the presiding elder and Rev. John W. Stubbles the

pastor. In 1897, the structure was torn down and the material hauled to Fairbury, where it was converted into two small residences.

In the winter after this edifice was completed, revival meetings were held by the pastor, Rev. John Stubbles, and were continued for several weeks. At this meeting those religiously inclined became nervous and were afflicted with the "jerks." Some would dance and throw their arms forward and back with lightning speed; others would work their arms as steady as a piece of machinery and with as much precision; some would move their heads back and forth in quick succession; others would sit down and keep their feet shuffling on the floor; others would jump up and down for an hour at a time, without the least appearance of fatigue, yelling "Glory! glory!" And what seemed strange, they all concurred in the one idea of being happy and perfectly free from exhaustion. While the revival was in progress, the church was filled nightly to its capacity, many coming for miles to witness this strange phenomena. Many of the "jerkers" refrained from work for weeks after the revival closed, being unable to perform manual labor. Dr. Darius Johnson, of Pontiac, who treated some of the patients afterward, pronounced the disease as chorea or St. Vitus' dance. Several weeks after the revival closed, Rev. Stubbles went to Pontiac, and put his horse in J. W. Remick's barn, where eight or ten of the "jerkers" were, when the enthusiastic boys started for the corn-crib to bring the animal some food. They reached the crib, going through all maneuvers imaginable. One would seize an ear of corn, and the next instant it would be flying several feet from him; another would attempt the same thing with a similar result. All were bobbing, and twitching, and humping, and throwing their arms, legs, necks, and heads in all manner of shapes. Corn was scattered all around the crib, but finally the whole party succeeded in securing enough to feed the animal. These "jerkers" were in complete possession of their senses, at the same time having no control over the muscular action of their bodies and limbs. It was months before those so afflicted were restored to their natural condition.

The first store in Avoca was kept by Woodford and James McDowell in 1854. The same year McDowell built a steam saw mill, to which was attached one run of stones for grinding

corn, but the main business of the mill was sawing. Most of the lumber for the houses of the earlier settlers was obtained at this mill. It was moved to Fairbury, Neb., in 1869.

The first bridge in the township was built over the south branch of the Vermillion River in 1844. The lumber was all hewed out of the neighboring forest, and it was a substantial structure.

The village of Avoca was laid out in 1854, by W. G. McDowell, who owned the land upon which it was located. The store in the village had been doing business for several months prior to this time. After the village of Fairbury (three miles south) was laid out in 1857, the little hamlet ceased to grow, and many of the houses were torn down and removed to that place. There is not a mark standing to note where the village once stood.

The first school was taught by Samuel Breese in the fall of 1835. The school house was a cabin, 16x18 feet, with a large wood fire place. The building was paid for by Mrs. William McDowell, (whose husband had died in 1834), Nathan Popejoy and James Blake.

James F. Adams started a brick kiln soon after his arrival in 1856. This was the first kiln of brick ever burned in the county. The Pearsons—Martin and Eli—were the first mechanics in the line of wagon making and blacksmithing. The latter was assessor of the township for a number of years.

Lyman Burgit was the first school treasurer, but died soon after his appointment, and James McDowell was elected to succeed him, and held the office for twenty-seven years, until his removal to Fairbury. There was but one school district in the township, and the school fund consisted of what was termed the "College and Academy Fund," from which this township drew annually about \$30. The first board of trustees were: Isaac Burgit, Nicholas Hefner and W. G. McDowell.

The first physician to practice in this section was Dr. John Davis, of Pontiac, who had the distinction of being the first physician to locate in the county.

The only representative of the legal fraternity in the township was W. G. McDowell. In 1859 he was elected county judge. In 1844 he was appointed collector of revenues. At that time, there was a premium of \$1.00 on wolf scalps. Mr. McDowell is quoted as saying that

"he collected almost the entire revenue that year in county orders and wolf scalps, not getting money enough to pay his own percentage on collecting it."

The Avoca cemetery was laid out in 1832. Susan Phillips was the first person to be buried there, the interment taking place in 1833. William McDowell and wife, the pioneers, are also buried there. The Popejoy cemetery was laid out later.

The Republicans of the township met at the school house on the evening of August 24, 1858, and organized the Avoca Republican Club. T. G. McDowell presided at the meeting. The following were elected officers: President, Aaron Weider; vice-president, J. Barr; secretary, W. G. McDowell. J. L. Crull, Martin Pearson, R. B. Foster, M. Weider and T. H. O'Neal were elected members of the township committee. At the county convention held later at Pontiac Aaron Weider, S. G. Crull, J. C. Dever, William Virgin, R. B. Foster and S. P. Wallace were selected as delegates from this township to attend the assembly convention to be held at Ottawa.

There are three church edifices in the township, all wooden structures, being erected by the Methodist denomination. One is located in the village of McDowell, the other at Lodemia, and the third on the east bank of the Vermilion, one-half mile north and a short distance east of where the village of Avoca once stood. The cemetery adjoins the church on the west.

The first supervisor of the township was Gideon Hutchinson. Isaac R. Clark was the first town clerk. The first settlers were from Ohio, Indiana and New York. Several Germans settled here in the early '60s. Prior to township organization, Avoca was largely Democratic, there being but seven Whig votes. In recent years, the township has gone Republican by a large plurality.

The Wabash railroad runs through this township from the northwest to the southeast. The road when it was built in 1872 was known as the Fairbury, Pontiac and Northwestern railroad. At the election held in 1869 this township by a unanimous vote (65) voted bonds to the amount of \$10,000 toward the construction of the road.

VILLAGE OF McDOWELL.

This village is located on the Streator branch of the Wabash road, five miles southeast of

Pontiac. It was laid out as a village in 1873 by W. G. McDowell, who owned the land and gave it its name. John Cottrell was the first postmaster. Benjamin Walton opened the first store, and later R. B. Phillips ran a store. John Leonard is now the village merchant as well as postmaster. A fine Methodist church is located here. The school house is one-half mile west of the village. There is an elevator, owned by the farmers in that locality, of which Charles Cottrell is manager. The village has about 100 population.

VILLAGE OF LODEMIA.

Is situated on the Wabash railroad, midway between Pontiac and Fairbury. Has a small depot. There is a Methodist church and parsonage a few rods to the northeast. A post-office was established in 1877. It was discontinued in 1891. Farmers in this locality now receive their mail on rural routes from Fairbury and Pontiac. There is an elevator here owned by Fairbury parties.

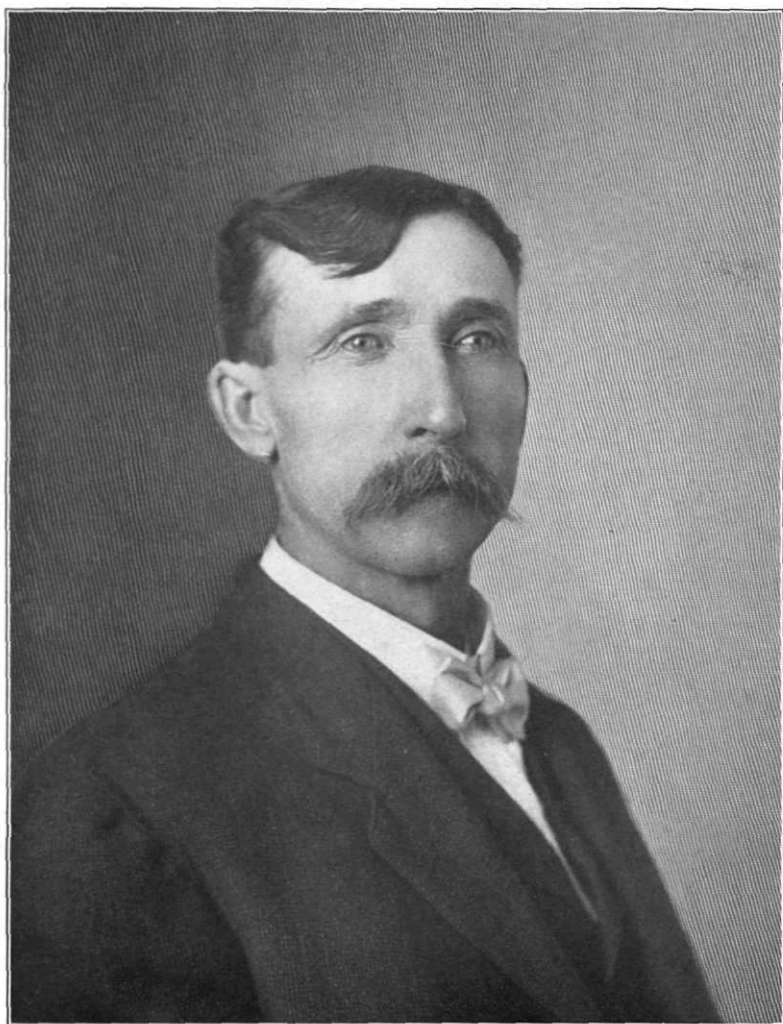
CHAMPLIN.

On the Wabash road is situated three miles northwest of Fairbury. The farmers of that locality have a grain elevator at this point.

BELLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

Belle Prairie is known as township 25 north, range 6, east of the third principal meridian. It is one of the three small townships of the county. It is bounded on the north by Indian Grove, on the east by Fayette, and on the south and west by Ford and McLean counties. This township was set off from Indian Grove at the time of township organization, and from that time until 1869, it embraced Fayette township within its limits. The township has neither a railroad nor a post office. The mail is delivered by carrier on the rural route from Fairbury. It was given its name by R. B. Harrington, at a meeting held at the school house on February 8th, 1858. William Brooks suggested the name of Douglas, but a majority favored the name of Belle Prairie.

Valentine Martin Darnall has the distinction of being the first permanent settler in Livingston County. He was born in Virginia, in March, 1798, and was the son of James and Massey (Martin) Darnall, natives of that



Frank S. Corkhill

state. When a mere child, his parents removed in Kentucky and settled in Boone County, one and one-quarter miles from Boonesboro, where Daniel Boone, the pioneer, built a fort over a century ago. Mr. Darnall was reared on a farm and was educated in the common schools of those days, which afforded very limited facilities for obtaining an education. With his family, wife and four children, he left Kentucky in 1830, first arriving in the settlement above Pleasant Plain, on the Mackinaw, in McLean County, making the journey overland in a wagon with the old-fashioned scooped bed, which had a wonderful capacity for carrying household goods. This wagon was drawn by four horses, which were frequently inadequate to haul it through the deep mud caused by the rains at that season of the year. He had three brothers-in-law living at Pleasant Plain, and after a few days' visit, he left his wagon and family with them while he came over to Belle Prairie Township on a prospecting tour. After deciding upon his location, he returned to his family and borrowed a wagon to avoid unloading, and with some grain he drove to a mill near Springfield. He was gone two weeks, the miller taking his time to grind the grain. He returned to the settlement on October 29th, and the following day he started and landed on the spot in this county which he had previously selected, and "pitched his tent," on section 4, Belle Prairie Township, where there was an abundance of timber. Mr. Darnall at once set about to cut down trees to erect his cabin, his only tool being an axe. The logs he cut eight feet long. The trees were cut down in the day time and at night he dressed them down into boards. The cabin was erected in one day, relatives from Mackinaw coming over and assisting him. The cabin has long since crumbled away. A month after his arrival came the big snow, an extended notice of which is given elsewhere. The following year (1831) of four horses he had when he settled here, three of them died with milk sickness, and he used oxen for some time afterward. In 1832, during the Black Hawk war (an account of which is elsewhere given), with his family he took refuge with his relatives in a fort on the Mackinaw, in McLean County, returning after the excitement had subsided. Mr. Darnall was honored with being elected the first supervisor of this township, which office he held for

several years. He also held various offices of trust. He was one of the first jurors in the county, when court was held in the log cabin in Pontiac, and the jury were obliged to sit on logs in the open air. The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Darnall's daughter, Mary, to Williamson Spence, was the first marriage in the county, the ceremony taking place in the log cabin on June 4th, 1837, and was performed by Rev. John Darnall, an uncle of the bride. On September 19th, 1839, another daughter, Alvira, was married to Benjamin Hieronymus. This was the second marriage in the county. Mr. Darnall was twice married, the first time in 1817, to Miss Rachel Steers. She died at the old homestead in September, 1872. In 1880 he married Mrs. Frances Cummings, who died at Hutchinson, Kan., while on a visit, on May 29, 1883. Mr. Darnall's first Presidential vote was cast for Andrew Jackson, and he remained a Hickory Democrat all through his life. A tract of 160 acres of government land, which he entered shortly after his arrival in the county, was still in his possession at the time of his death (1886), and the title which was vested in him by the government remained just as it was written at that time.

The second settler in the county was Williamson Spence, mentioned above, who came here in 1831. His father, Malachi Spence, had located in Indian Grove Township, the same year. The first house in which he lived was 16x18 feet in dimensions, constructed of roughly hewed logs, with a plank floor, and his first purchase from the government was 80 acres of government land. His marriage to Miss Mary Darnall occurred in 1837. Both are now dead. A most remarkable event is that their five children are still living. Courtenay Ann, born in 1839, is the wife of Elhanan Fitzgerald and lives in Fairbury; Amanda, born in 1841, is the wife of Theodore A. Bentley and lives in Centralia, Mo.; Martin M., born in 1844, resides on the old Martin Darnall homestead; Mary E., born in 1847, is the wife of D. C. Avery, of Pontiac; Marquis D., born in 1856, lives at Roanoke, Va.

In 1834, Jeremiah Travis, James Cooper and Hugh Steers arrived with their families, each locating on section 5. Travis and Cooper came here from Overton County, Tennessee. Their mode of transportation was by wagon drawn by oxen, which made their travel necessarily slow.

Steers came from Boone County, Kentucky. It is said that Travis was the first white man to strike a fire on the west side of Indian Grove timber. He was a chair and spinning wheel maker by trade. During the early years in the new settlement, he was the first blacksmith. He died on the old homestead in 1871. Steers was a cooper by trade and made the first whisky barrel in the county. Cooper devoted his time in farming. Steers died October 26, 1852, while on a visit to his former home in Kentucky, and his remains were buried near where those of his parents and Daniel Boone repose. He was a leading and prominent member of the Baptist church and assisted in the organization of this church in this county. Cooper served on the first jury after the organization of this county, and held many offices of trust. He died in 1871, and was buried in the cemetery bearing his name, near the old homestead. His daughter, Margaret, born in 1835, was the first birth in this township. She never married, and died in Wichita, Kan., in the fall of 1901.

The family of Spencer Kates were the only arrivals in 1835. He was the first justice of the peace, receiving his commission in 1840, while this township was yet a part of Indian Grove precinct. He removed to the state of Oregon in 1865.

Benjamin Hieronymus came here in the spring of 1839 from Logan County, this state, where his parents had settled in 1828. On September 19th of the same year he was married to Miss Alvira Darnall, this being the second marriage in the county. Soon thereafter he engaged in teaming to Chicago, which he followed for nearly twenty-five years. He died on the old homestead December 31, 1885.

Charles Jones and son, Thomas A., came here in 1843 from Forrest Township, where they had settled in 1837. They lived here until 1861, when they removed to the village of Fairbury. They were natives of New Jersey.

Decatur Veatch and wife located here in 1846. He was born in Harrison County, Indiana, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1834, they locating in McLean County. Mr. Veatch built the first sawmill in Indian Grove Township. It is said he was the first Abolitionist in the county. He died June 3, 1873. His widow is living in Fairbury.

Orin Phelps came here in 1847, having pre-

viously settled (in 1840) in Forrest Township. He was a native of New Jersey.

David S. Crum settled on section 17 in 1853, coming from Franklin County, Ohio. He is still living. He served five terms as supervisor, was justice of the peace for twelve years, and school treasurer for many years. He is a member of the Methodist church, and was one of the principal members instrumental in building Fairview Chapel, which is located on his farm. While in no sense a politician, he is a strict partisan of the Republican party.

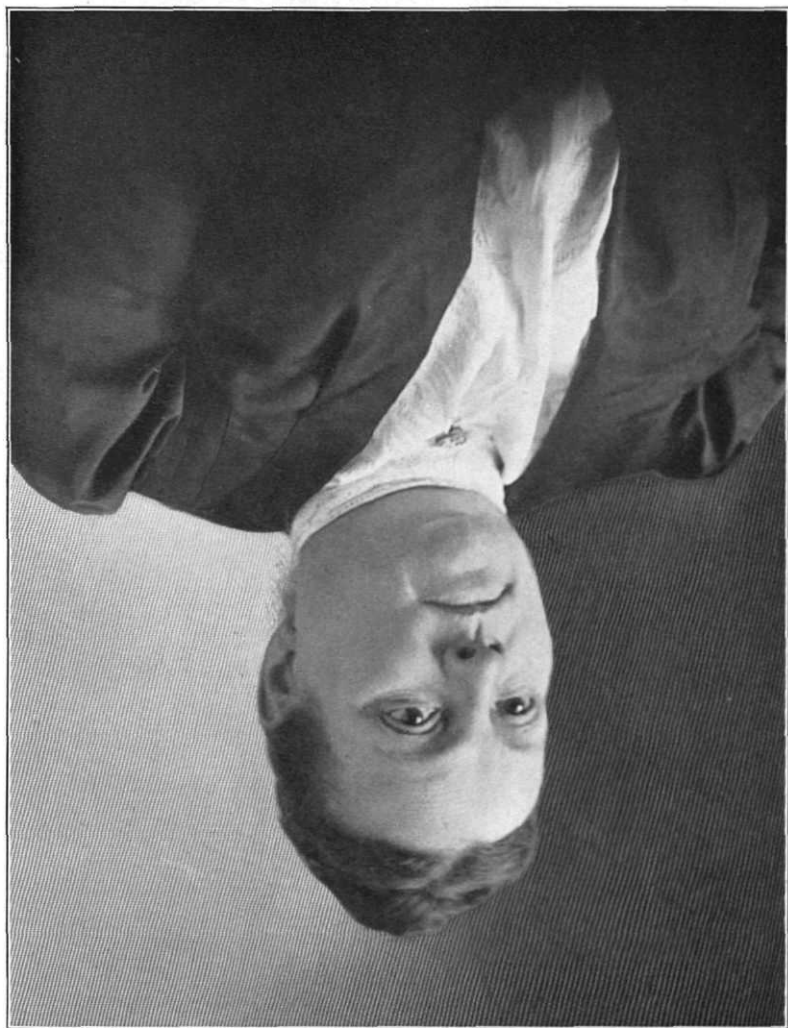
Benjamin Walton came here in 1854 from Pennsylvania. Instead of locating in the timber, as had the previous settlers, he settled on the open prairie, having purchased his claim from a man named DeBoard. Mr. Walton was one of the first men in the county to advocate a stock law, and resolutions on the subject offered by him at the first county fair at Pontiac went the rounds of the press and circulated extensively over the Western states. Another enterprise of his was the putting up of stone corners to each section of land in the township. He made the move, and after encountering considerable opposition, succeeded in carrying his point, and today every section of land in this township has stones, weighing not less than 200 pounds, at each corner. He afterward moved to Fairbury, where he operated a flouring mill. He now lives in California.

Richard Smith came here the same year. He served two years as township collector. Jesse Hanna and son, Richard, and Allen Fitzgerald and sons, Elhanan and James, arrived in 1855. The Hannas came here from Woodford County, this state, and the Fitzgeralds from Boone County, Kentucky.

William Brooks came here in 1854 from Atlanta, this state. He was among the passengers on the first through train on the Chicago & Alton railroad after its completion from Chicago to Alton. For over fifty years he has kept a daily record of the weather and of principal events which have happened in the southern part of this county, and in many instances, by referring to his record, has settled disputes. Several years ago he abandoned the farm, and with his wife is now living in Fairbury.

George Worrick came here in 1857 from Washburn, Woodford County, this state, having located there three years previous. He dropped dead on the streets of Pontiac in 1882.

Olava H. Forshill



Others who arrived in the '50s were James and John Kirby, Samuel Hayes, John and Michael Morris, B. F. Fitch, Aaron Becker, P. O. Abbey, Gottlieb Brucker and the Sticklers.

The foregoing names comprise nearly all of the early settlers in this township of whom we have been able to obtain any definite information, and these settled in and around the small body of timber at the head of the grove.

There is but one church in the township—Methodist—and it is known as Fairview Chapel. It is a frame structure, erected in 1865, at a cost of \$1,500, and was dedicated on its completion by Presiding Elder Rhodes. Before this church was built services were held in the cabins. Rev. John Darnall, Rev. David Sharpless and Rev. John Miller were among the early preachers.

The first school house was built in 1858, the contract for the same being let to Benjamin Walton. He hauled the material from Pontiac, and got his pay by collecting a sufficient amount to bring down his quota to a fair proportion with that of his neighbors.

For many years there was a small village called Potosi on the south line of the township, but that is now a thing of the past.

In early years, this township went Democratic, but since 1896 it has been placed in the Republican column.

BROUGHTON TOWNSHIP.

This township is on the east side of the county, Round Grove being situated on the north and Sullivan on the south. Before the act of township organization was adopted in 1857, the township was a part of Round Grove precinct, and the inhabitants, not very many in those days, went there to vote. The township organization went into effect in 1858. The east fork of the Mazon river runs north through sections 2, 11 and 16. The township is quite rolling, numerous sloughs being located here and there in an early day, but these have all been drained and the vast prairie is now all under cultivation.

William Broughton, after whom the township was named, took up his residence here on May 1, 1852, coming from Medina County, Ohio. In his younger days he had followed the life of a sailor on the lakes. He was the

first supervisor, which office he held for a number of years, and was also assessor for a long period. He took an active interest in politics, and in early life identified himself with the Republican party, and remained a firm adherent until his death, which occurred September 29, 1884. James Broughton (father of William) and sons, Samuel and James, arrived in 1854. They were joined shortly afterward by John Conway and William Day.

Bernard O'Neill came in 1855. After working two years as a farm hand, he purchased a 160-acre tract in section 1. He was a native of Ireland. In his youth he was ardent in his desires for liberty, and signed petitions for Catholic emancipation, and served as an O'Connellite for a number of years. He served as school director of the township for more than thirty years.

Warren Webster arrived in 1856 from Ohio, a few months after his marriage. He followed farming the first two years, and later gave his attention to stock raising. He was particularly active in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and served as director for a number of years. Nelson Clapp and Smith Clapp settled here the same year.

Jonathan Sarvis and James Blair located on claims in 1857. The former was from Pennsylvania and settled in the southwest part of the township on swamp land purchased from the government at \$2.50 per acre. He served the township as supervisor for several terms. Blair moved away in 1860. James E. Morris arrived in 1858. He is a member of the Baptist church, and was among the first to preach the Gospel in the neighborhood. He has held the office of assessor and school director. In politics, he is a Republican. Amos Hertz came here in the spring of 1859. His wife taught the first school in district 3. Both are members of the Congregational church. Isaac Persels also came here in 1859, locating on section 3. He served as road commissioner and township treasurer. He moved to Gardner in 1877. W. E. Baker settled here in 1860. It is said that he used the first riding plow brought to this county. This was in the summer of 1862. It was a crude affair, and it was several weeks before it could be fixed so he could operate it. Mr. Baker and Frank Whipple, of Union Township, purchased the first reaper in this locality, and cut most of the growing grain in Broughton.

ton and Union. Mr. Baker afterward moved to Saunemin Township, from there to Dwight, and later moved to Fairbury, where he served several years as street commissioner, and was elected supervisor. He was postmaster under Cleveland's administration. He was elected county treasurer in 1890, and moved with his family to Pontiac, where he now resides. At present he is special city collector of special assessments.

Others who settled here in the '60s were Abram Lower, Samuel L. Glover, Henry Justus, W. R. Marvin, Alexander McKenzie, James Reeder, Michael Mulligan, John Earing, James Close, Gooner T. Gunderson, Henry Canham, Jacob J. Foltz, Jesse Little, Albert Harris, Thaddeus S. Little, Soren Olson, Augustus Robinson, L. D. Knox, Richard Snyder, Lyman Howard, Augustus Howard, Timothy Murphy, Robert Christian, G. W. Gallup, Thomas L. Johnson, James Douglas, Charles Douglas, J. E. Ferguson, Patrick Ferguson, P. D. Fitzpatrick, Maurice Kiley, Ole Lewis, C. H. Lewis, N. P. George, James Shay, A. Southcomb, H. H. Wiers, Thomas Shaw, Michael Kennedy, John T. Lovell.

The first school house was built in the Broughton neighborhood, and the first election for town officers was also held there. The next school house was built on the Sarvis farm, followed with one later on the Clover farm. There are now nine good school buildings in the township.

In 1874, the Catholics erected a frame church in the southwest corner of section 3, on the O'Neil farm. The Congregationalists erected a church later, on section 6.

About one-third of the present population of the township is Irish. For several years the township went Democratic, but in recent years the Republicans seem to have been more or less successful. The census in 1870 showed 823 inhabitants.

VILLAGE OF EMINGTON.

Emington is an incorporated village in Broughton Township, has a population of 250 inhabitants, and commands the trade of a fertile region, making it an excellent market. It was laid out and platted from the farm of William Marvin. The village is situated on the main line of the Wabash railroad. It has good school and church accommodations. St. Mary's

church is a frame building, with a seating capacity of 150. The Congregational church has a seating capacity of 300. The village has three dry goods and grocery stores, two dealers in hardware and farm machinery, drug store, meat market, two grain elevators, lumber yard, two confectionery stores, blacksmith shops, and a hotel. The lodges represented are the Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors, Mutual Aid, Knights of the Globe, and Good Templars. October 16, 1893, an accident occurred in the village by the explosion of dynamite in which five men lost their lives, and several were injured. Eyer Brothers, of Dwight, were engaged in digging a deep well. Several people had congregated around the well to witness the progress being made, when a package of dynamite exploded. Those killed were Chris Eyer, Daniel Eyer (a brother), Fred Eyer (a cousin), James Cornwall and C. E. Fowler.

CHARLOTTE TOWNSHIP.

Charlotte lies in the eastern tier of townships, and is described as town 27, range 8. Until 1864 it was included in Pleasant Ridge Township. When the latter petitioned the board of supervisors for a separation L. W. Dart, one of the early settlers, was given the honor of naming the new township, which he called Charlotte—the name, it is said, of a girl he courted in Vermont in his younger days. The township is all prairie, except a few sections of timber on the north, bordering a branch of the Vermillion river, which flows toward the west. The groves on the river are Burr Oak, Eagle and Crab Apple, all of which are small. The name Burr Oak is applied in consequence of the timber being of that species; Crab Apple because of these bushes being scattered through the grove; Eagle from the fact that eagles built their nests and reared their young long after the people settled here. The north half of the township was termed swamp land in an early day, but since the river has been dredged, it has been settled upon and the land ranks among the best. A branch of the Illinois Central railroad from Kankakee to Bloomington, runs north and south through the center of the township. The village of Charlotte is located on sections 10 and 15. Several substantial bridges have recently been erected over the Vermillion

river. Politically the township is about equally divided between the Democrats and Republicans. There are many Germans and Irish in the township, who located here in recent years.

Patrick Monahan, John Monahan, Owen Murtaugh and John Martin were the first settlers, locating here in the spring of 1858. Patrick and John Monahan were brothers, although the latter at that time was unmarried. They were born in County Meath, Ireland, and left their native home in 1855, first locating in Grundy County. They came here overland with an ox team. Their first home on the prairie was a rude affair, made of posts and poles on which lumber was placed loose for a roof. They experienced all the privations of the early settlers. The Monahans farmed the land together and raised stock until the marriage of John in October, 1863, when each farmed for himself. The latter erected a house on section 21 in 1864, and the following March it was destroyed by a cyclone. Patrick in after years erected one of the finest residences in the township. Both are now dead, each having been the possessor of hundreds of acres of land. Mr. Murtaugh was also a native of Ireland. He came to Illinois at the age of 26 years and first located on a farm in Lee County, afterward moving to Marshall County. He then spent eighteen months in California, finally locating here. He related that soon after his arrival he went to Pontiac after some lumber. He started home with about 800 feet of lumber, but owing to the poor roads was obliged to throw about half of the load off when half way home, where he arrived on horseback with only a few boards, finding that an empty wagon was a load of itself through the swamps. The family camped out a few weeks until he could erect a cabin. He moved to Chatsworth in 1890. Martin enlisted in the army and after the close of the war he went to Kansas. L. W. Dart arrived in 1860. He was a native of Vermont, but for several years previous to his arrival here had engaged in farming in Woodford County, this state. He was fairly well-to-do when he first landed there, but it seems that he was a poor manager and lost several thousand dollars, which had been inherited by his wife, and came here penniless. He passed the first winter on the prairie in a sod house. The family were in dire poverty, having scarcely anything to live on. One of the neighbors gave her

a sack of corn, and she took it on a horse to Avoca to get it ground, and on the way she fell off the horse, with the ague, which was quite prevalent in those days, and she laid on the ground for hours before some one came along to assist her. Dart had a lawsuit with the county for sixteen years for some imaginary title to land in this township, but lost his case in the courts. He had a few blacksmith's tools, built a shop, but did not work steady at his trade. He moved to Indian Territory in 1876. William Hefner and Elias Brown came the same year, remained until 1870, when they left the settlement. John G. Bruns came the same spring. Thomas Cunningham arrived in the spring of 1861, having spent several years previous in Tazewell County. Among others who arrived in the '60s were John G. Allen, Jonathan Edwards, John Gingerich, Owen Flinnegan, William Hallam, Thomas S. Harry, James Chadwick, George W. Blackwell, James Entwistle, Lawrence Farrell, M. Walrich, William Hercules, Rolf Beckman, Michael Fitzmaurice, David Alfred, Joseph Askew, James Bryden, James Greenwood, John Brickley, John Becker, H. M. Larned, John Stranigan, Andrew Satt-hoff, Thomas Cotton, Frank Cole, Justin Hall.

The first birth in the township was a daughter born unto Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Monahan, October 8, 1859. There being no church of their religious faith (Catholic) in the neighborhood, Mr. Monahan went with an ox team to Morris, a distance of fifty miles, to have her baptized.

The first death was a boy named Bain, who broke through the ice while skating on the Vermillion river in the winter of 1860 and was drowned. The first school house were built in 1861, in the Dart and Monahan neighborhoods. The first public road was laid out by Patrick Monahan. It ran north and south past his residence, and at the present time is the principal thoroughfare from Cullom to Chatsworth. The first supervisor was Thomas Cotton.

VILLAGE OF CHARLOTTE.

Charlotte is on a branch of the Illinois Central road. The village is located midway between Chatsworth and Cullom. It has not grown to any great extent in recent years. There is a general store conducted by Sterrenberg & Son, a blacksmith shop and two elevators. It has about a population of fifty.

CHATSWORTH TOWNSHIP.

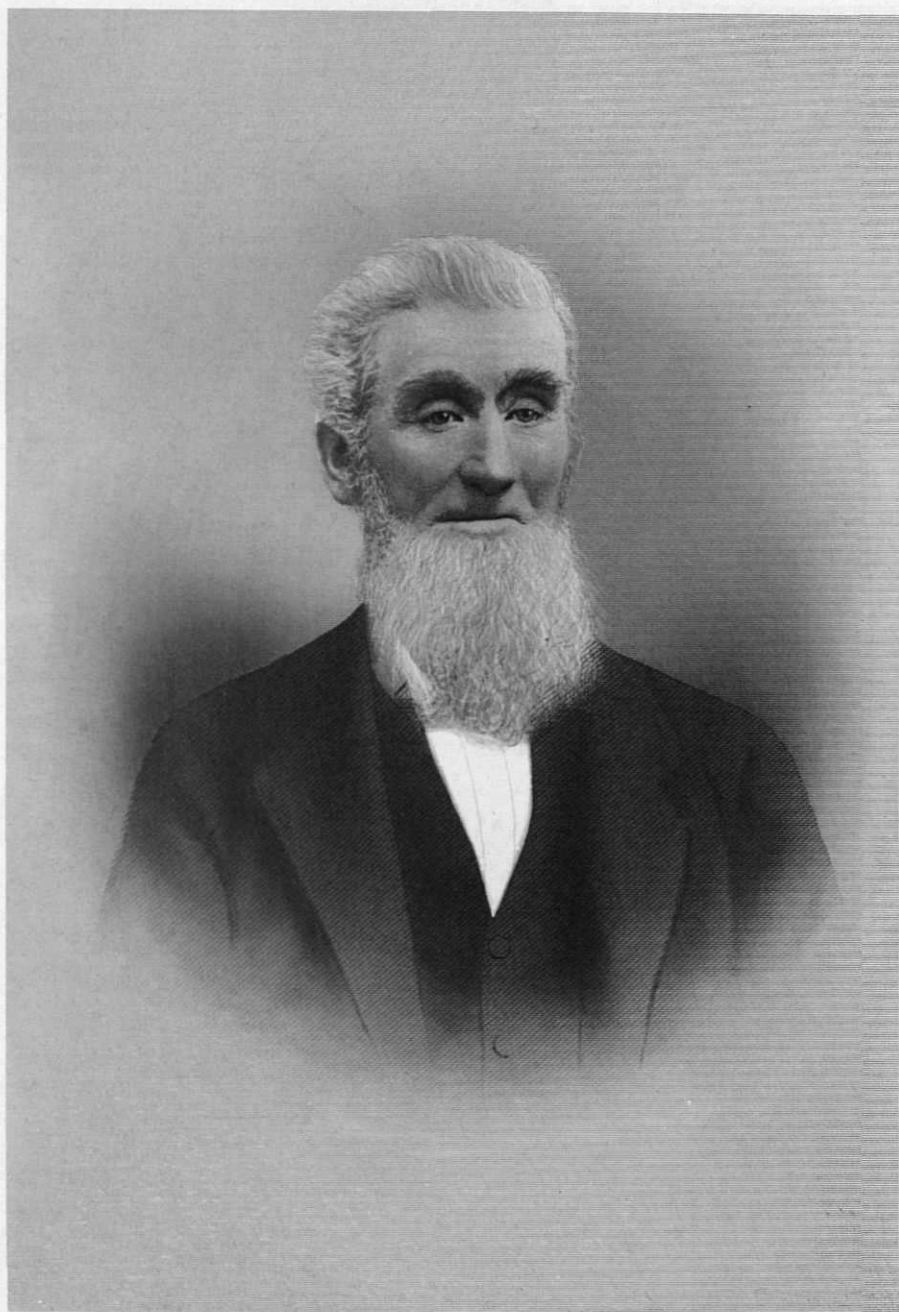
At the time of township organization this township was named Oliver's Grove, in honor of Franklin C. Oliver, the first settler, and embraced the town of Forrest and the fractional town of Germanville. In 1860, upon a petition to the board of supervisors, the name was changed to Chatsworth by William H. Jones, who was a member of the board. In 1861, the board of supervisors set off Forrest, and it became a separate and distinct township, and at the September meeting of supervisors in 1867 Germanville petitioned for separation and was set off as a distinct town. The only natural timber in Chatsworth Township is Oliver's Grove, in the southern part. The south half of the township was quite wet, many large ponds and sloughs being located there. It has only been in recent years that these have been drained by means of a large dredge ditch, which was constructed by the land owners at no small cost. The old Indian trail in the south part of the township, that marked the dividing line between the Kickapoo and Pottawatamie tribes, was plainly visible for years after settlement was made, but it has long since been obliterated. Politically, the township is Democratic. Two railroads run through the township, the Toledo, Peoria and Western, running east and west, and the Illinois Central, running north and south.

The first person to locate here permanently was Franklin Oliver, who came with his family in the spring of 1832, from Bordentown, New Jersey, and settled in the stretch of timber which still bears his name. At that time a tribe of Kickapoo Indians was located in the grove. During the Black Hawk War, the Kickapoos took no part, and Mr. Oliver and his family remained in the settlement. (See Indian History). By profession Mr. Oliver was a civil engineer and surveyor, and followed that occupation at the breaking out of the war of 1812. He enlisted in the service as soon as war was proclaimed, and served through it with distinction. He was one of the first county surveyors of this county, and selected and surveyed all the swamp land in the county. His home was on the line of the Danville and Ottawa mail route, and many of the travelers who went to the land office at Danville took their meals and remained over night in this log cabin. He became the owner of 4,000 acres of choice lands in this and adjoining counties, but never actual-

ly engaged in farming. In his later days he was more or less engaged in lawsuits, and a major portion of his estate was spent in litigation. He was married three times, his last wife being Miss Amaretta Smith, whose father settled at an early day on what is now known as Smith's Mound, in Sunbury Township. Ann Oliver, a sister of Franklin Oliver, was one of the first teachers in Owego Township. She was buried at Pontiac, where she distinguished herself during the cholera epidemic of 1848 by taking care of the afflicted ones, who all recovered, but she herself was taken with the dread disease and her life was thus offered a sacrifice to others. Franklin Oliver died September 19, 1881, aged 95 years, 5 months and 11 days.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, Mr. Oliver and his family were the only settlers in this locality for over twenty years. The nearest settlement was in Indian Grove and Belle Prairie townships, twelve miles toward the west. In 1855, Addison Holmes and Romanzo Miller made their appearance. Holmes was from Indiana. He remained for several years and then removed to Champaign County, this state. Miller was from Vermont. He later removed to Iowa. The settlement was increased in 1856 by the arrival of John P. Hart, David Stewart and John Snyder. Hart was from Vermont and Stewart and Snyder from New York. Job H. Megquier, George S. Megquier, Truman Brockway and William H. Jones came in 1857. The following year Brockway built the first house, a two-story frame building, in the village of Chatsworth, of which he and Charles Brooks used the lower floor for a general store—the first store in the village—the second story being used as a residence. Job Megquier also moved to the village that year, his being the second family. Jones was the first supervisor after the name of the township was changed from Oliver's Grove to Chatsworth. Peter Van Wier was the first German to locate here, arriving in 1858. He afterward moved to Charlotte Township. Matthew H. Hall came in 1859. In 1865 he moved to Chatsworth and engaged in the grocery business with Charles Brooks, and in 1879 Mr. Hall formed a partnership with A. M. Crane, and they carried on a hardware and grocery business.

Among others who settled later were Milo M. Miller, James Turnbull, Miles Desire, Daniel B. Puffer, John H. Marshall, George W.



Walter Cornell

Cline, Gustavus Koehler, Adolph Koehler, Thomas Weinand, John A. Todd, Jacob Rehm, S. S. Hitch, S. Carson, John Entwistle, S. B. Furr, Richard Hitch, John Meister, A. K. Pratt, George Spear, Henry B. Shepherd, Peter Schroen.

The first town meeting was held at the home of Franklin Oliver, on April 6, 1858, when James Meredith was elected supervisor. W. H. Jones was elected supervisor at the elections held in 1859 and 1860. Jones was also the first justice of the peace. The first school meeting was held on April 12, 1858, at the home of John Snyder, when Franklin Oliver, Job Megquier and Franklin Foot were elected trustees, and William H. Jones elected school treasurer. The first school was taught in the summer of 1858 by Miss Jennie Adams.

VILLAGE OF CHATSWORTH.

It was not until two years after the Toledo, Peoria and Western railroad passed through the six northern sections of the township, from west to east, that the village of Chatsworth was laid out. On June 8, 1859, Zeno Secor and Cornelia Gilman of New York state, who owned section 3, caused 160 acres to be surveyed from the south half of the northwest quarter, and the north half of the southwest quarter, the work being performed by Nelson Buck, county surveyor. Forty-four blocks were laid out. The land was entered in 1853 by Solomon Sturges who, in 1857 disposed of it to William H. Osborn, and the latter to Secor and Gilman. Within the past few years, owners of the lots have discovered a flaw in their title to the same. It appears that Cornelia Z. Gilman was married at that time, but her husband did not join in the deeds of conveyance.

The first store building was erected in 1869 by Truman Brockway and Charles Brooks, and they conducted a grocery store. The latter was the first postmaster. C. W. Drake erected the first hotel. Samuel D. Patton was the first blacksmith. The first school house was built in 1858, being also the first one in the township. The present school building was erected in 1870, although several additions have been built to it. Charles D. Brooks erected the first elevator. It was destroyed by fire in 1866. Others were built later by Samuel Crumpton, Haberkorn and Mette and Joseph Rumbold. A mill for grinding corn was built by William Williams in 1877.

Others in the grain business later were A. B. Searing, Charles Weinland and H. P. Turner.

Among the early merchants were J. G. True, jeweler; J. T. Bullard, in the lumber business; E. A. Bangs and H. M. Bangs, druggists; Hall & Crane, hardware; J. L. Delong, grocer; W. H. Hall, furniture; Robert and Lantry, hardware; Peter Shroyer, coal merchant; John Timm, first a meat market, afterward in the lumber business; William H. Wakelin, grocery; Justin H. Wyman, drygoods; John Walter, general merchandise; Albert M. Hall, photographer; Louis Sorg, tailor; Fred Felker, furniture; Brockway and McKee, grocers; Henry Wrede, boots and shoes; John Young, general merchandise; Robert Rumbold, insurance; Conrad Heppe, bakery; William Cowling, hotel; Samuel D. Webster, stock and grain; William Altman, drygoods; A. Grendling, harness shop; C. Gunther, harness shop; E. A. Jackson, hardware; L. T. Larned, grain dealer; Louis Meister, shoe maker; M. Reising, grocer. The early blacksmiths were S. D. Patton, W. Buller, George Beckman, C. R. Beckman, A. Orr, L. C. Speicher and Charles Sieberts. The wagon makers were L. C. Speicher, H. Barth, Frank Fowler, Carl Stephens, A. Van Alstyne. Among the carpenters were M. Free, P. Hoffman, Theodore Klover, W. A. Linton, John O'Neill, E. B. Roberts. Among the early physicians were Drs. D. W. Hunt, W. C. Byington, Charles True, and F. H. Bostock. The early postmasters were Charles Brooks, N. C. Kenyon and W. W. Sears. Among the first lawyers were S. T. Fosdick, R. R. Wallace and George Torrance. Fosdick was elected state senator from this district in 1876, and re-elected in 1878. Mr. Wallace was elected county judge in 1873 and held the office for nineteen years. Mr. Torrance was elected to the senate in 1880 and held the office four terms. The senatorial district at that time was composed of Ford and Livingston counties. Judge Wallace now resides in Pontiac, while Fosdick and Torrance are both dead. Thomas S. Curran, and W. W. Sears were among the first justices of the peace. The first banks were owned by C. A. Wilson and Company, and E. A. Bangs and Company. At present there are two banks—the Commercial Bank, of which G. W. McCabe is president, and the Bank of Chatsworth, of which Stephen Herr is president.

In 1865 the Germania Sugar Company erected a large factory east of the village for the pur-

pose of manufacturing sugar from beets. It proved unsuccessful on account of the scarcity of water. The factory was in operation for about five years, when the machinery was taken out and moved to Freeport. The promoters lost in the neighborhood of \$75,000 in the venture.

An effort was made to sink a coal shaft here in 1867, but after going down over 200 feet operations ceased, no coal being in sight.

The first newspaper was published by O. J. and L. W. Dimmick in 1873 and called the *Palladium*. Those who have since been proprietors are George Torrance, C. B. Holmes and R. M. Spurgeon. The name was later changed to the *Plaindealer*. The present proprietor is James A. Smith. The *Times* was started in 1905, by the Times Publishing Company. E. E. Megquier is its editor.

Chatsworth Lodge, No. 539, A. F. & A. M. was chartered October 1, 1867; Chatsworth Lodge, No. 339, I. O. O. F. on October 9, 1866; Livingston Encampment, I. O. O. F. May 31, 1871. Among other secret organizations are the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen and Court of Honor.

The first religious society organized in the village was the Methodist church in 1859, by Rev. M. Dewey, with forty members. The charge at that time included Forrest, Five-Mile Grove, Pleasant Ridge, Oliver's Grove and Bethel, with Rev. J. W. Flowers as presiding elder. In 1874 the members erected a church at a cost of \$2,500. In 1871, the Baptists erected a building at a cost of \$3,600. The first Catholic church was erected in 1864, and dedicated on March 17 of that year by Rev. Thomas Roy, president of St. Viator's college. It was built under the pastorate of Rev. John A. Fanning, and cost about \$4,000. A Presbyterian church was built soon after the village was laid out, but there is no membership at present. Since that time, the Catholics, Methodists and Baptists have either built new structures or repaired the old ones. The present Catholic church is an elegant brick structure, with a parochial school and rectory. The total cost of the buildings exceed \$30,000. The German Evangelical church has in recent years erected a fine edifice. The German Lutherans also have a church for worship.

A disastrous wreck occurred on the Toledo, Peoria and Western railroad the night of August 11, 1887. A special train bearing 800 ex-

cursionists to Niagara Falls broke through a burned-out culvert three miles east of Chatsworth. Seventy-seven were killed outright and four died later from injuries received. Two of those killed were residents of this county—E. C. Adams of Blackstone and Mrs. Daniel Duckett of Forrest.

The village now contains a population of about 2,000 inhabitants. Nearly all of the mercantile houses are built of brick, and every line of business is well represented. The main thoroughfare is paved with brick and cement walks are found in the residence district. One of the largest industries is the drain tile and brick factory of George J. Walter, which gives steady employment to twenty men. Mr. Walter is also proprietor of the electric light plant. A well-organized fire department, with a volunteer company, has done good service in protecting the town from disastrous fires. The village has recently sunk a deep well, and erected a new tower. The park is located in the center of the town and is used as a place for various public meetings.

DWIGHT TOWNSHIP.

Like all the prairie land, this township was not settled for more than twenty years after settlements had been made in the groves of timber and along the water courses in the county. Immigration came in quite rapidly during 1855, and the growth and improvement of the country continued steady after that period. The first two seasons we had fair crops, and after that for several years we suffered greatly on account of the great rainfall and the "hard times" which followed, and a great many who had purchased their farms upon credit were compelled to give them up. When the Civil War began, the enlistments were so numerous that help could hardly be obtained, and a considerable amount of land that had been cultivated remained vacant and unoccupied for some time, as prices of grain were so low there was no particular object in raising it.

The year 1854 was a memorable one in the history of this township, for with it came some of the most prominent men who have resided here. It was in this year that John Conant emigrated from Rochester, N. Y., accompanied by George T. and Henry F. Conant. John Conant

settled on the northeast quarter of section 8, which is conceded to be the first permanent settlement in the township, outside of the village of Dwight. He took an active part in the establishing of schools and assisting in all public enterprises pertaining to the prosperity of the township and village. He was the first postmaster at Dwight and first justice of the peace. He died February 4, 1860, on the old homestead. His wife received from the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia of 1876 a certificate of award for a hat of June grass made by her.

It was in this year, too, that Major C. McDowell came from Hollidaysburg, Pa. He had resided in that city for some time, where he had successfully carried on the banking business. He purchased several thousand acres of land in this vicinity, and became one of our most prominent and active citizens. He was a man of large heart and generous nature. When the country was visited with that ever memorable snow storm, which blocked up the traffic on the railroad between the village of Dwight and Odell, some hundred and fifty passengers were brought to the village for shelter and sustenance. Provisions were low at the time and the town was composed of only a few buildings. There was the station house. John Campbell had a small eating house, Mr. West had a small hut. There was a small house where Dr. Hagerty's family lived, a small boarding house for railroad hands, and a grocery shanty with two families living in it. These composed the town of Dwight. Major McDowell promptly despatched his team to the town and took a number of the ladies into his house, where he entertained them, and made them comfortable during the terrible storm. The town was fast running out of provisions and famine stared them in the face; but the storm abating a little, word was sent to Morris, and the good people of that town sent two sleigh loads of provisions to the aid of the people.

James McIliduff came the next year from Cassville, Pa., and located on the northwest quarter of section 18. He remained on the farm until 1866, when he moved to the village of Dwight. He served as postmaster three years, police magistrate thirteen years, and also held the offices of school director, justice of the peace and town clerk. Nelson Cornell located on section 8. William Morris settled on what was afterward

known as the Barton farm. James C. Spencer began improvements on his farm of 1,200 acres, which adjoined the village of Dwight on the north. It was on this farm that the Prince of Wales made his headquarters for a few days in 1860. George Z. Flagler and Egbert Clarkson came the same year (1855). Flagler worked one year on the Spencer farm, then turned his attention to the carpenter's trade, the first house he erected being a little shanty, 16x24 feet, occupied by himself and wife and another family. The following year, he erected a better one. In 1856, he and William Clarkson went out three miles in the country and dug up some young basswood trees, which they brought to town on their backs and planted, these being the first trees planted in Dwight. Mr. Flagler helped to organize the village, and aided materially in its growth and building, assisting in the erection of most of the older buildings in the village. He also helped to build the first Presbyterian and Methodist churches. He afterward engaged in the lumber business. Henry A. Gardiner commenced improvements the same year on his 1,000 acres of land east of the village. After spending some time on his farm, he was called to a position on the Hudson River railroad. Later he was chief engineer of the Michigan Central railroad. His son, Richard, afterward lived on the original homestead. Joseph Shrimpton located here about the same time. J. C. Hetzel worked one year on a farm, and afterward at his trade, that of a mason and plasterer. Later he embarked in business. In 1856, Leander Morgan arrived from Connecticut. At that time there was not a tree to be seen in the township and no other indications that it would ever be a point worthy of any special interest. He was one of the first to assist in the establishment of educational and religious institutions. He helped to build the churches and sustain the societies, contributed of his means to the erection of school houses, and encouraged the settlement of the county. He was a Whig in early manhood, but upon the abandonment of the old party endorsed the principles of the Republicans. C. Roadnight settled north of the village in 1857. He was a man of means and of fine education, although not well versed in tilling the soil. For a number of years he was general agent of the Chicago and Alton railroad. F. Rattenbury settled on a farm the same year. S. T. K. Prime arrived in 1858. He purchased

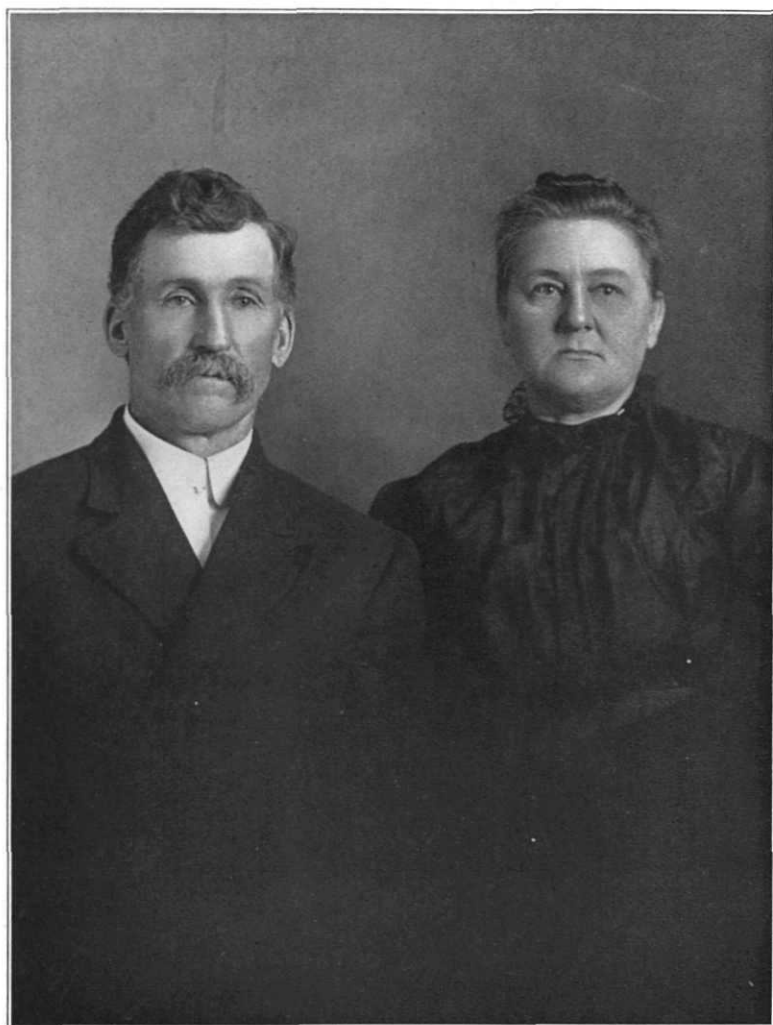
320 acres of land, built a house and commenced farming, knowing nothing practically of the work. He toiled on, struggling for ten years against low prices and poor crops. During all this time he devoted his leisure moments to reading and study, and was never so happy as when writing short sketches for the press. In 1873, when the Granger movement spread over the Northwest, he took an active part in the work in Illinois. No other county in the state was so thoroughly organized or produced greater practical results from the movement than Livingston County. The celebrated platform of the Farmers' and Peoples' Anti-Monopoly party was the joint work of Mr. Prime and W. B. Fyfe of Pontiac. Tens of thousands of copies of the platform were circulated all over the Northwest, the principles adopted, and county and state officers elected in consequence. Mr. Prime later turned his attention to editorial work. For many years he contributed articles of practical value to the Chicago Tribune upon the tariff question and upon matters connected with agriculture. In 1878 he commenced a special department in the Tribune of reporting daily, from March until October, the condition of the crops in the Northwest. He afterward established a crop bureau, supplying private individuals and grain and commission merchants all over the county, with full and reliable crop information in the United States. Every county in the state, from Ohio to the northwest was thoroughly organized. He had from three to five correspondents employed in each county, and twelve clerks aided him in this work. Later he was a contributor to the New York Journal of Commerce, the St. Paul Farmer and the Rochester (N. Y.) American Rural Home. He also compiled and edited a book of 800 pages on "Model Farms and Their Methods." A. G. Potter came here the same year and rented a farm of David McWilliams. Benjamin Chester came in 1858. He was originally from Connecticut, and until his death in 1868 was one of the substantial men of the neighborhood. His son William died the following year (1869) leaving his estate to an only sister, Miss Hannah Chester. The above is a partial list of the early settlers.

VILLAGE OF DWIGHT.

The iron road and the iron horse of George Stephenson were destined to alter not only the face of the country, but also its social position

and material wealth. It was during these times that James C. Spencer, now of Wisconsin, and T. C. Meyer, formerly of New York, drove through this county surveying the present railroad from Chicago to St. Louis. For seven days they had to camp out in this immediate neighborhood, and during the journey Mr. Spencer had his legs so severely frosted that at one time it was feared amputation would be necessary. But their efforts were ultimately crowned with success and, in the summer of 1854, the first engine passed over the road. The winter was one easily remembered on account of its intense cold and protracted length. A great storm burst over the country and snow fell till it covered the land two feet deep; the thermometer for a period of six weeks averaged from 25 to 30 degrees below freezing point, and the few residents in this locality felt the bitter weather in all its severity. The trains were snowed in for several weeks and the passengers were furnished food by the settlers. It became necessary to smash up the car seats to keep fires burning in the cars. It was during this great storm that quite a large delegation of Illinois legislators had been on a visit to Joliet to inspect the site for the removal of the state penitentiary from Alton, and when returning were blockaded by snow about three miles southwest of Dwight for several days, and were finally taken to the farm house of Major C. McDowell, and from there to Morris in sleighs, reaching Springfield via La Salle, Bloomington and Decatur, and for six weeks no trains were run from Bloomington to Joliet. Many farmers in the surrounding neighborhood lost their cattle, and thus they were cramped and hindered at the very commencement of their pioneer life. The snow was on the ground till May when the farmers went to planting corn; but by this time other families were moving into the settlement, and it soon became evident that a village was about to be formed here. At this period, the prairie was infested more or less with wolves, and when the settler looked out of his door in the clear bright morning light, he could often see large herds of deer pasturing not far from his little homestead. The locality now known as the town of Dwight was then a precinct, and it was not till the 21st day of January, 1854, that the plats were laid out and the town began to grow.

The first sign of a town was indicated by the



G R Cottingham

Belle Cottingham

elevation of a telegraph pole with an inverted tin pail nailed on the top. This served as a landmark and a guide to surveyors engaged in surveying the Chicago & Mississippi railroad, (now the C. & A. road). When the first few houses were built here, the neighboring farmers and residents styled the incipient village "Western New York;" but that name was soon destined to pass out of sight and give place to a better one. We have never been able to ascertain why the town was not named after its founder and original proprietor of the land, R. P. Morgan, Jr., unless it was that Mr. Morgan was too modest and too generous to name it after himself. Henry Dwight, Jr., of New York, was a brother engineer of R. P. Morgan. He came out West and embarked and lost his then large fortune in the construction of the railroad. He was a man of enterprise and great public spirit, and it was in his honor and to commemorate his deeds that R. P. Morgan gave his name to the town in which we live. It was on the 6th of August, 1853, that Mr. Morgan deeded the right of way to the Chicago and Mississippi Railroad Company through the present site of Dwight, and other lands; reserving by covenant that "should he lay off the former tract, the present site of the town, into town lots, to make safe and suitable crossings wherever the line of said road intersects the streets that may be laid out on said road." And in consideration of the right of way granted, the company covenanted to "erect and keep up station houses and other necessary depot buildings," where they now stand, on the northeast quarter of section nine, town thirty, north, range seven, east of third principal meridian. In the fall of 1853, Mr. Morgan caused the original town plat to be surveyed, and on the 30th of January, 1854, formally dedicated and recorded it in the following words; "To be known as the town of Dwight, and the streets and alleys described on the plat are hereby donated to the public."

In 1853, a man named Morris erected the first house in the village. It was a frame building, 16x24 feet, one and one-half stories high, and was built originally for a supply depot for the railroad hands. Augustus West erected the first residence in June, 1854. West was employed in "wooding up" the engines on the Chicago and Alton road, when it stopped here. At that time the village consisted of two small shanties and a water tank. One of these shan-

ties had been occupied by a man named Stevens, who butchered for the men working on the railroad, and the other by James Morgan, who boarded them. In September, 1854, John Campbell built a temporary building just south of the present depot, as a railroad dining station. The trains stopped there for dinner and supper. It was purchased the following year by Hiram Cornell, who conducted a hotel in it for some time.

Early in March, 1855, David McWilliams began the erection of a building for a store, 20x32 feet, two stories high. A few loads of lumber were hauled on the vacant lot (opposite the Methodist church on Mazon avenue), but it seemed so far away from the depot that he was prevailed upon to change his location to the place where his bank building now stands. His first sale was a shilling lawn dress. The store served as a place of worship and a shelter for the new comers. Those in business in 1858 were David McWilliams and Henry Eldredge, grocers; C. H. and H. T. Newell, hardware; S. Hoke, furniture; E. B. Coleman, harness; John C. Spencer, flour, feed and provisions; E. Chilcott and Simon Lutz, blacksmiths; Joseph Rockwell, wagon maker; Dr. J. H. Hagerty, drugs; E. Jones, hotel; E. Vosburg and S. Hoke, painters; L. Armstrong, wheelwright. Among those who soon afterward engaged in business or professions were Dr. J. B. Baker, drugs; A. E. Gould, general merchandise; J. O. Hetzel, drygoods; G. M. Hahn, proprietor Dwight flouring mill; H. A. Kenyon, book store; W. S. Sims, lumber and coal; H. E. Siegert, miller; Hugh Thompson, grain merchant; J. M. Baker, grocer; William Estes, hardware; F. W. Ford, bakery; C. Koehnlein, furniture; John Leach, harness; J. C. Lewis, jeweler; E. Merrill, merchant; Alexander McKay, harness; O. W. Polard and Company, merchants; S. W. Strong, insurance agent; W. L. Rabe, physician; G. A. Seymour, druggist; Zopher Tuttle, banker; Philip Weicker, bakery.

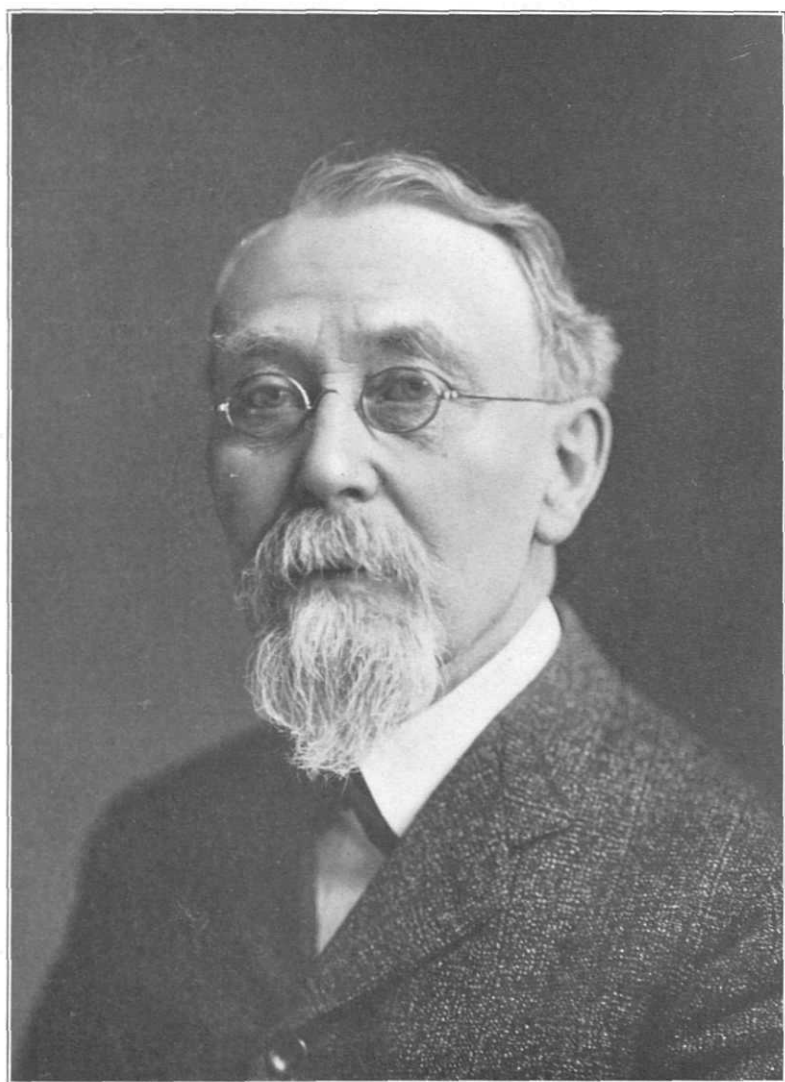
Previous to the spring of 1855, the only actual settlers in the village were August West, John Routzong, Simon Lutz, James Morgan, Thomas Wilson, E. C. Stevens and James Harrison and their families. During the same year, Hiram Cornell, William Clarkson, George Z. Flagler, Jeremiah Travis, W. H. Ketcham, Isaac H. Baker, S. L. Ramsey, James Smith, Northrup Riggs, B. Losee and Dr. J. H. Hagerty arrived.

The latter was a physician. In 1859 he was elected school commissioner. Among those to arrive within the next three years were: Charles H. Crandall, Isaac C. Mott, L. C. Pearre, J. F. Schumm, Homer Kenyon, Henry Eldridge, Joseph Rockwell. Rockwell made the first wagon in the village.

A large stone mill was built in 1859, the funds being subscribed by the citizens, and originally cost about \$16,000. The first grain warehouse was built by John C. Spencer in 1857. The first postmaster was John Conant, receiving his appointment in 1855. He turned the office over to David McWilliams when the latter opened his store. The first birth in the township was a child of Thomas Wilson, the station agent, in 1854. It died a few months later. The second death was the wife of Alexander Gourley. The first marriage was that of Elon G. Ragan and Miss Maria West, on February 19, 1856. The first birth in the village was a child born unto Mr. and Mrs. Northrup Riggs. The first school house was built in the fall of 1855 at a cost of \$275 and served three years as a school house, church and public hall. It was 16x24 feet, and stood about fifteen rods east of the residence of David McWilliams. In after years it was part of Col. J. B. Parsons' residence. The school directors were David McWilliams, Jeremiah Travis and Nelson Cornell. In 1857 it was found necessary to build a larger school building. All agreed that the house must be built, but the location cost many heated discussions. At the election, the "east side" party gained the day by three votes. A person going from the main part of town to the site of the new house was obliged to wade through slough grass as high as a man's head. In 1864 an addition was made to the building. It was 26x28 feet and cost \$1,500. In 1870 the two story brick on the west side was erected at a cost of about \$5,000. Notwithstanding the fact that it seated 150 pupils, the board of directors was obliged to rent a room in the Methodist church which served as a school room for one primary grade up to the fall of 1886, when the Presbyterian church was secured. Some ten years ago, a large brick school house was erected on the east side of the village, used for the higher branches. The first teacher was Miss Sarah Snyder, who taught six years. Among the early teachers were Mrs. Edwin Lathrop, Clara Collister, Amerila Crowell, L. P. Wilmot, C. S.

Glenn, D. S. Eylar, O. F. Pearre, O. S. Westcott, Miss Bennett, Miss Crist, Miss Hattie Newell, Mrs. F. J. Ketcham, Miss Jessie Wright, Miss Mary J. Paul, Mrs. C. M. Baker was the first woman elected on the board of education. The first graduation exercises were held in 1880, the graduates being Miss Alice Eldridge and Charles Fallis.

The first appointment for a religious meeting in Dwight was in the house of Nelson Cornell. It was just before the great snow storm in 1855. A few people gathered, but no preacher put in an appearance. Those who attended meeting at that time did so either at the log school house on Mazon creek or at Eber Stevens' barn. The first public religious services were held in a building afterwards occupied by J. J. Core, on lot 17, block 6. It was used before the building was finished, and thirty-seven persons attended the first Sunday school service on May 15, 1855. Among those whose names we can now ascertain were David McWilliams, N. E. Lyman, Simeon Lutz, John Routzong, Mr. and Mrs. John Conant, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cutler, Henry Conant, Henry and George Cutler, Miss Meltina Earl, Jeremiah Travis, Augustus West, Ashley Bentley and Robert Thompson and family. The first sermon actually preached was over David McWilliams' store, on the second Sunday in June, 1855, by the Rev. A. D. Fields, of the Methodist Episcopal church. His circuit, known the "Mazon circuit," embraced all that tract of country south of the Illinois river, and extending from Morris to Avoca Township. The society was organized with six members, viz: Simeon Lutz, John Routzong, Isaac Baker, Isabella Baker, David McWilliams and Jeremiah Travis. John Routzong was appointed leader of the class. The Rev. Mr. Field preached a few times during the summer, and at the next meeting of the conference, two ministers were appointed to the Mazon circuit, and Dwight became one of the regular preaching places. From this time forward there was preaching every alternate Sunday in the school house, then just built. In 1862, the society was struck off from the Mazon circuit, and Rev. C. W. Pollard appointed to the charges of Dwight, Odell and Pontiac. The society erected their first building in 1858; it was dedicated in July of that year by the Rev. Dr. Kidder, of Evanston. About 1862-63, the society had so increased in numbers as to necessitate the enlargement of



A. V. Cowan

their building, and it was lengthened twenty feet. For nine years they worshipped in this building, when their present elegant church was erected at a cost of \$16,000, under the pastorate of Rev. E. D. Hall, and dedicated in October, 1867, by Rev. Dr. Eddy, then of Chicago. It is a handsomely finished edifice, is capable of seating about 500 persons, and the society numbers 260 members. The Sunday school of this society was organized at an early period, and is in a flourishing condition. David McWilliams was the first superintendent, a position he held for thirteen years in succession.

The Presbyterian church society was organized in Dwight in 1856, the next year after the Methodist. The original members were three males and five females, and their first place of worship was the school house, in which they continued to hold their meetings until the next year, when the church now occupied by the Danish Methodists was erected on lots donated by James C. Spencer and R. P. Morgan. This was the first church built in Dwight, and cost originally \$2,620. The pulpit was filled by various ministers irregularly, until 1869, when Rev. L. F. Walker was called to the charge. In the fall of 1871, he was succeeded by Rev. W. L. Lloyd, who filled the pulpit until 1873. The elders of the church were Hugh Thompson, Robert Thompson, James George, James Paul and John C. George. The property was sold by the association to the Danish Methodist society.

The next society organized was the Congregational, December 1, 1865. The first sermon was preached in this faith by Rev. J. A. Montgomery, a student from the Congregational Seminary of Chicago. The meetings were held in Gerson's hall. On the 12th of January, 1866, a "council of delegates" from the neighboring churches was convened, and invited to give advice regarding the permanent organization of a church, and eleven persons identified themselves with the congregation. In 1867 an effort was made to build a church, the lots procured, and the building commenced. In January, 1868, their present elegant church was dedicated, free from debt. The total cost of the building, grounds, etc., was \$5,425. Rev. J. A. Montgomery was pastor from the first organization of the church until 1873, when he accepted a call to Morris, and the pulpit was afterwards filled by Rev. W. C. Rogers and several others, with

about one hundred and fifty members. It has a flourishing Sabbath school.

The Baptists made the next effort, but have not, from some cause or other, flourished as some of the other denominations have done. The German Lutheran church was built in 1867, and cost \$1,400; has about fifty members, and a flourishing Sunday school. The German Evangelical Association, or Albright Methodists, have a handsome little frame church edifice, 22x30 feet, which cost about \$1,500. The Danish Lutherans have a pretty little frame church, built a few years ago, which has a large and flourishing membership. There is also a Roman Catholic church in the village, with a membership of about fifty families. Their church is a neat and tasty little building, put up at a cost of about \$1,500.

The first bank was established by J. G. Strong in 1866. It suspended in 1884. David McWilliams and Zopher Tuttle each afterward engaged in the banking business. There are at the present time two banks in the village. The first newspaper was established May 5, 1868, by Charles Palmer, called the Dwight Star. Isaac G. Mott was the first supervisor and first chairman of that body, W. H. Ketcham the first collector, and Barum Losee the first constable. The latter was killed in 1872 by a runaway team while sitting in front of McWilliams and Judd's bank.

The early members of the bar were: L. G. Pearre, J. G. Strong, Fred B. Hargreaves, R. S. McIlduff, Joseph I. Dunlop, W. H. Bradbury, Lewis Kenyon and F. E. Peck.

Oaklawn cemetery was laid out in 1877. The remains of Samuel V. Vickery were brought from Kansas and buried, his body being the first interred there. In 1879, sixty bodies were removed from the old cemetery to Oaklawn. This cemetery is, without doubt, the finest in the county. It is located two miles west of the village. When the cemetery was divided into lots and plats, several thousand trees were set out. These have since grown to large proportions. The late L. E. Keeley in his will left \$10,000 toward its improvement. The Catholic cemetery is located one and one-half miles south of the village.

A census was taken of the village in 1870. This report possesses some interest, as it indicates the size to which the village had attained, the number of buildings and inhabitants. It is

as follows: Number of inhabitants, 1,044; dwellings, 212; families, 120; white males, 537; white females, 501; colored males, 4; colored females, 2; males foreign born, 109; females, foreign born, 75; number attending school, 225; number that cannot read, 11; number that cannot write, 37; number of electors 243. According to the census of 1900, the population of the village had increased to 2,015.

During the winter of 1883, eleven deaths resulted from the scarlet fever scourge. Miss Laura Thompson, a graduate of the high school, Miss Nellie Gallup, and four of the family of T. J. Johnson were of the number. The Methodists held a memorial service in memory of the scholars of that church who died as a result of the epidemic.

The village has been visited with several destructive fires, occurring on March 24, 1869, December 9, 1869, June 8, 1879, August, 1882, and October 10, 1891.

From 1869 to 1881, there were on an average of ten saloons in the village. Since 1881, with the exception of the years 1905-06, saloons have been voted out.

The repair shops and the round house of the western division (Peoria branch) of the Chicago and Alton road are located here. Within the past five years several blocks of the principal thoroughfares have been paved with brick, and many miles of cement sidewalks have been laid. This village is noted as being the parent home of the Keeley Institute. Two weekly newspapers—the Star and Herald and the Sun—are published here. The Livingston Hotel is the finest building of its kind in the county. It was erected by the proprietors of the Keeley Institute. Nearly all of the business houses are built of brick. The principal manufacturing industry is the Spencer hay-press factory plant, which employs several people. One of the finest residences in the county is that of John R. Oughton, surrounded by a park in which are twenty deer.

(For a larger portion of the write-up of Dwight, we are indebted to Fred B. Hargreaves).

EPPARDS POINT TOWNSHIP.

This township was among the first to be settled in the county, the arrivals dating back as far as 1834, but it was not until along in the

'50s, after the Chicago and Alton road passed through, that it increased much in population. The township is timbered on the west, and three creeks (Hickory, Rooks and Turtle), flow through it, all finding an outlet in the Vermillion river. The township is known as town 27, range 5, and lies directly south of Pontiac, Yates Township, in McLean County, joining it on the south. The township received its name in 1857 from a Mr. Eppard, who was one of the first settlers. The county farm is located in this township.

Along about 1835, Joel Anderson and son Joel, John Pennells, and four other families—Eppard, Tuttle, Hayes and Suttle—squatted in the southern part of the township. The four latter disposed of their claims in after years and removed to other parts. Joel Anderson located on section 29, where he lived until his death in the '50s. In 1850, the families of Eli Myer and Alvin Potter located here. Myer was born in Maryland, but from 1831 until his arrival here had engaged in farming in Licking County, Ohio. He had a Mexican land grant of 160 acres, and took up a claim on section 29. His family consisted of himself, wife and seven children. He at once erected a log cabin, 14x16. Before the township was organized, he was elected one of the associated judges. He was the first supervisor, first school treasurer and clerk after the township was organized. He was elected to the legislature in 1844. He was a member of the Baptist church and contributed largely of his means for the maintenance of the society. He also left a bequest for the purpose of putting up a church edifice at Ocoya, a sum equal to one-fourth its cost, and which was used as he designed. He taught the first school organized in the township. He died December 30, 1868, the owner of 478 acres. This he willed to his children, the home place of 320 acres being divided among his three youngest sons. His children all remained in the township, several of whom have since passed away. When Alvin Potter arrived with his wife and eleven children they first sought refuge in the little log cabin occupied by Joel Anderson until he could build a shelter for his family on his claim on section 28. The first few years the family had "hard sledding." By perseverance and hard toil, in after years his sons each secured large tracts of land. Sylvester Potter now resides on the old homestead. In 1851 John

Powell located on section 29, removing in 1855 to his farm east of Pontiac. Samuel and Frank Umphenour came a few months after Powell. In 1852 the township was increased by the arrival of the families of Morgan L. Payne, Samuel St. John, John St. John, John Norton, Thomas Craycraft, Alexander Morton, John Umphenour and J. H. Turman. William Griffith, D. W. Young, Addison and Samuel Muzzy, Samuel Freeman and Washington Stafford joined the settlers the following year. Asbury Minier came in 1854. Mr. Payne came here from Danville, where he had resided for many years. He was captain of a company in the Black Hawk War and performed distinguished service. He was a Texas Ranger when the war between Mexico and this Government was declared, and was in the first battle under General Taylor, on the Rio Grande. When his enlistment expired, he returned to Greenboro, Ind., and raised a company of militia, and returning to Mexico, served during the war, being at the taking of Monterey and the battle of the City of Mexico. During the civil war, he raised a company of men in this county (Company G, Fifty-third Infantry) and was elected captain. Two years after he settled here four of his children died, and they were buried in the cemetery still bearing his name. He died of cancer in 1878, and was buried with military honors in the cemetery at Pontiac. His wife died in 1907.

Among those who settled here in 1856 were D. J. Handley, S. P. Coldren, W. C. Babcock, S. P. Garner, Thomas Carson, Thomas Virgin, J. N. Guthrie, S. T. Turner, J. A. Wright, and in 1857 William Perry, W. H. Wagner, John E. Green, E. B. Persons, Otis Richardson and William Manlove. Nearly all of the last above named served as various township officers.

The first school house was erected in 1855. It was a log structure, erected by the pioneers, the logs being cut from the timber. Eli Myer was the teacher, although he taught the winter before in his cabin. The following winter a school house was built under the district system, near the bridge over Rooks creek. Reuben Macey was the teacher. Another was built in the northeast part of the township, and a woman teacher was employed.

Macey taught ten months and received \$33.33 1-3 per month, the woman teacher receiving \$25 per month. Ninety-two children attended these schools—forty-eight boys and forty-

four girls. These school houses were also used for religious purposes. In after years, a brick school house was erected in district No. 6. It is still standing.

We are indebted to Sylvester Potter, who came with his father to this township in 1850, for the following history of the Ocoya Baptist church and the Sunday school of this township, and of some of the early settlers who have long since gone to their reward:

"Mr. and Mrs. Eli Myer were the founders of the Ocoya Baptist church. In 1850 they moved here in covered wagons from Ohio into a log house near where Charley Myer's house now stands. There were just two other families along this timber. My grandfather Anderson's family lived near where Wade's stone quarry is now, where the old house stands, and a family by the name of Pennells lived across the creek east from O. A. Sweet's farm. There were four or five houses in Pontiac, no railroads, no Chenoa, not another house on all this prairie from Pontiac to Lexington. The house Grandfather Myer moved into was 14x16. There were five boys, two girls and the old folks in the family, and yet they had room to keep travelers or drovers over night, sometimes as many as ten or fifteen. They were members of the Baptist church in Ohio, and after they came here united with the Baptist church at Lexington. They attended church here quite often, taking part of the family and riding in an old-fashioned one-horse wagon. There were no bugles or spring seats in those days here. After a while there was a log school house built on the west side of the road, west and a little north of Samuel Myer's, just at the point of the timber. They then succeeded in getting a preacher to come every two weeks. Then after a while the Ocoya school house was built and they held services there, and on November 16, 1861, they, with others, organized a Baptist church here, as the records show. From this time on, Grandfather Myer began to plan for a church building. They first thought they would build one mile south of the Ocoya school house, and hauled rock there. Then they bought a lot just north of the school house to build on, but there were not many people here and they were poor and not able to help much, so they couldn't build then, but like David of old, he still planned, and before his death he made a will, leaving \$600 towards building a Baptist church at Ocoya, if built within

three years. He died December 31, 1868. The time ran out in which the church should have been built, according to the will, and the church wasn't built until 1872, but his sons more than made it good, for they put more money than that into it. But best of all, Grandmother Myer lived to see this church dedicated and gave them a Bible to use in the church. She lived until June 5, 1875.

"In March, 1865, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Sweet moved here. They were members of the Baptist church at Washburn and were received into the church August 5, 1865, by letter at covenant meeting, none of the members being present but father and mother Myer. And as the mantle fell from Elijah and Elisha took it up, so when the mantle fell from Father Myer, Father Sweet took it up. From that time on for several years he had the burden of the church to bear. The neighbors can testify to his coming down in all kinds of weather to church and how ready he was to welcome any stranger who came into the church or Sunday school. I have no doubt but there are many in this neighborhood that can say that he pointed them to the Saviour and they will remember him until the day of their death. He died March 14, 1896.

"Then there was Mrs. Morton, 'Aunt Betty,' we all called her, and truly she was an aunt to this neighborhood. Many a home has been blessed by her in time of sickness. There are many here that can testify to the good deeds of 'Aunt Betty,' Morton, always giving liberally of her small means to the support of the Gospel or any good cause. She died May 22, 1890.

"Then there was Father Macy and wife. They came here in 1866 and bought forty acres of land where Ocoya now stands. He erected a little house by the railroad, built the old elevator, bought grain, was station agent and kept post-office for a number of years. They were members of the Baptist church at Pontiac, united here by letter, and were a great help to the church, always ready to make any sacrifices that were necessary for the advancement of the cause which was nearest their hearts. They moved from here to Swygart in 1880, then back to Pontiac, where he died May 11, 1884. Mother Macy lived until March 16, 1895. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. B. F. Myer.

"The first Sunday school was started in this township in 1853. In 1852 or 1853, Grandfather Myer built a new house and moved into it. He

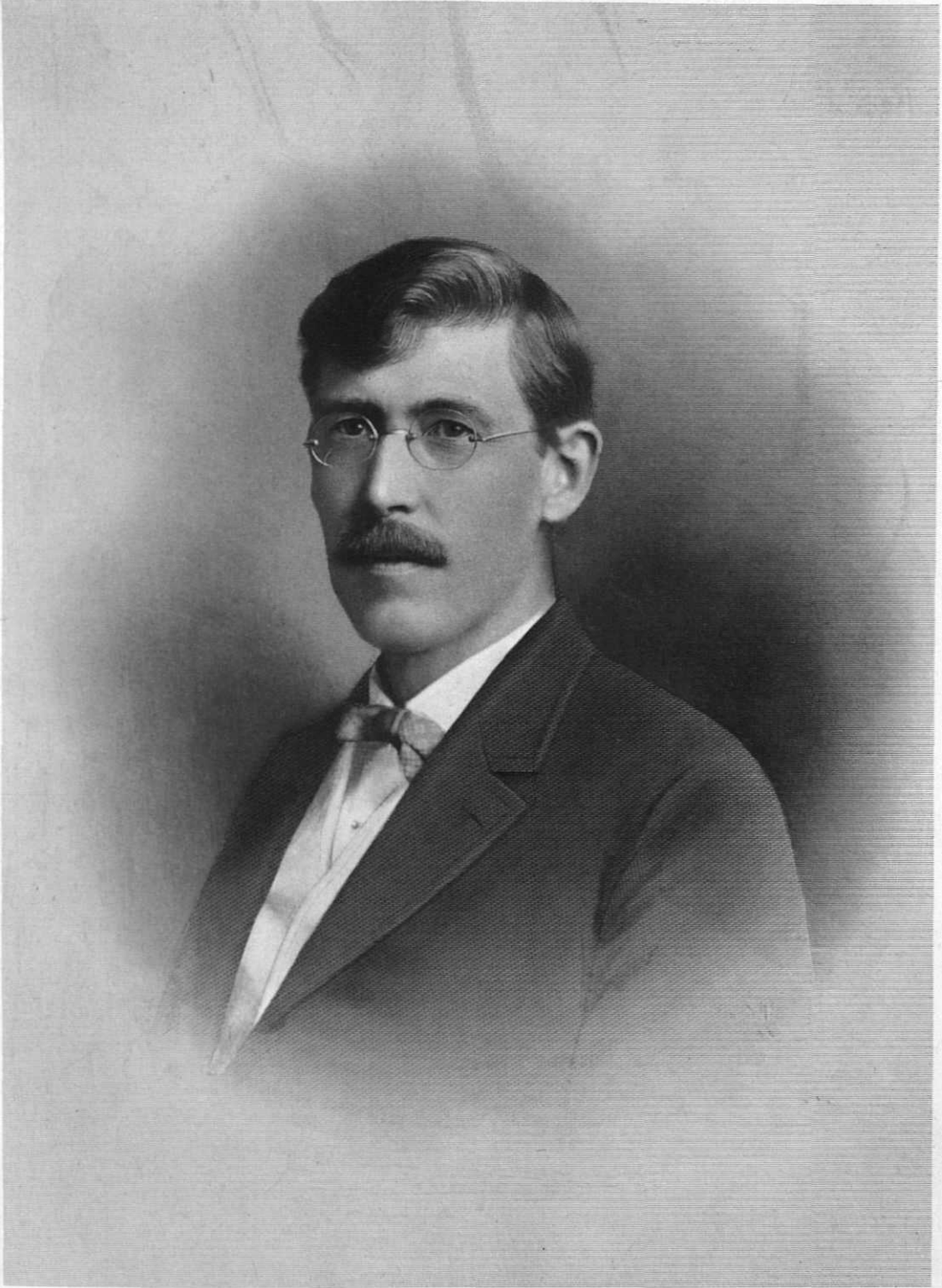
taught school in the old log house in the winter, as they had no school house, and gathered in some of the neighbors and their children on Sundays and had Sunday school in the spring and summer in the old log house. I can't help but picture this house in which the first Sunday school of the township was started. As I have said, it was a log house, 14x16, about 6½ foot ceiling, covered with clapboards, with weight poles to hold them on, one window with three small lights, one door 3½ feet wide and six feet high with a latch on the inside with a string that went outside, so any one could pull the latchstring and open the door at any time. There was not a nail in the whole house except the door. The floor was of split logs or puncheons, as they were called then. The loft floor was laid with split boards. There was a big fireplace in the north end, with the chimney on the outside, laid up with sticks and daubed with clay mortar. When they commenced to have school and Sunday school in the house, they made some benches for seats out of slabs or puncheons with holes bored in then and pins in for legs. This was just such a house as we lived in until I was about thirteen years old. They would meet there to study the Bible on Sundays. Grandfather Myer was a well posted man on the Bible. He was a teacher. We don't know of them organizing until after the log school house was built.

"The first superintendent that I can learn of was Samuel B. Freeman. He was a member of the Methodist church. He used to live on the south side of my old place. He came here in the '50s. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for a number of years. He died December 13, 1867.

"They only had Sunday school in the summer until some time after the Ocoya school house was built. In 1865 they elected Father Sweet superintendent, and since that time the Sunday school at Ocoya has been running summer and winter. The church was built in 1872 and the Sunday school has been held in the church since then.

"Father Sweet was superintendent some eighteen or twenty years, Uncle John Morton one year, Mr. Brown one year, Lilborn Morton three or four years, O. A. Sweet three or four years. I was superintendent ten years.

"There was a Sunday school started at the Sand Ridge school house in 1857. Squire Pier-



Fletcher L. Crocker M.D.

son was superintendent first. It ran summer only for several years. Then the school house was moved out of this township, near McDowell. The Sunday school continued until the church was built at McDowell, and is still running summer and winter. Charles Cotrell is superintendent. They have a large school. There was a Sunday school started at the Centre school house about 1868. E. M. Babbitt was superintendent first. It only ran a summer or two. In 1870 they reorganized, and elected D. J. Taylor, superintendent. It was run as a union school for a good many years, summer and winter, then changed to a Methodist school.

"In 1892 the church was built and the Sunday school has been held there ever since and is in good running order now. Milton McElhiney is superintendent.

"The German Evangelical Sunday school was started in Pike Township in the spring of 1870, at the Schaffer school house. Father Fischer was superintendent first. They built their church over in this township in 1889, moved the Sunday school over in it, and have been running summer and winter ever since. John Schickedanz is the superintendent now.

"There has been a Sunday school started at the Wade school house two or three times but did not run long; perhaps a month or two. There was a Sunday school started at the brick school house in 1870, but it did not last long.

"I wish I knew all the superintendents and teachers and workers that have helped in the Sunday school work in this town, but there are only a few that I have the names of. Some of them were here at work when we moved out here in 1875, and some have gone to their reward. In the history of the church I mentioned some who were members of the Baptist church. Then there were members of other churches that helped in the Sunday school.

"Uncle" John Morton, as we called him, came here in the fall of 1851. He was a member of the Methodist church. He was a faithful worker and teacher in the Sunday school, always on hand, and on time. He moved to Pontiac in 1882 and died April 5, 1893. Then there was Mrs. McGinnis, a noble woman, a Sunday school teacher, a fine singer, and played the organ. She was a member of the Christian church and was a great help to the Sunday school. They lived south of Ocoya, about one mile on the east side of the railroad. She died April 22, 1879."

VILLAGE OF OCOYA.

The village of Ocoya is located on the Alton road. It was laid out by Duff and Cowan of Pontiac in 1869, although a few years before a depot had been erected there and E. M. Babbitt and D. S. Shireman were engaged in the grain business. The town site was purchased in 1871 by Reuben Macey, and he erected a grain elevator. In 1870, Mr. Macey and John McCalla conducted a general store, continuing until 1877, when McCalla moved to Pontiac. Bogie's first addition was laid out in 1870. At the present time, the farmers of that locality own and operate an elevator. There is also a general store and a blacksmith shop.

ESMEN TOWNSHIP.

This township is described as Town 29, Range 5. With the exception of two sections near Mud Creek and Babcock's Grove, the township is devoid of timber. The streams are Wolf creek, Mud creek and Baker's run. The Chicago and Alton road cuts off the southeast corner of section 36, and the Wabash two sections from the southwest corner of sections 31 and 32. Esmen was set apart in 1857 as one of the twenty original townships. The southwest tier of sections are populated principally by the Norwegians. The township has given Republican majorities in recent years. It received its name by B. P. Babcock, one of the first settlers.

John Chews and wife were the first permanent settlers, coming from Ohio in 1835, although some one had previously erected a cabin near where he staked out his claim. He died in 1860. William K. Brown settled in the northwest part of the township, north of Mud Creek, in 1836. Soon after his arrival, a postoffice was established at his house. His native town was Sunbury, Pa. In the early settlement of the county, he carried the mails between Danville and Ottawa, making weekly trips, and carrying it on horseback. He died in 1850. James Funk and William Ross arrived in 1845, settling in a grove in the southern part, and erected a log cabin. E. G. Rice came here in 1847. He moved to Pontiac in 1871 and removed to Alexander County, this state. Billings P. Babcock came in 1848 and purchased the claims of Funk and Ross. The latter removed to Saunemin Township. Their site was in a grove, which has

since been known as Babcock's Grove. Mr. Babcock was a native of Oneida County, New York. In that state he was admitted to the bar. A mail route from Wilmington to Pontiac was opened soon after his arrival, and he got a post-office established at the grove, and was appointed postmaster. The Bloomington and Chicago state road ran by his farm. He, with two associate judges, Eli Myer and John Darnall as county commissioners, built the first truss bridge over the Vermillion river at Pontiac, and the brick court house which was destroyed by fire on July 4, 1874. He was elected county judge in 1852, served three years, but resigned. Hugh Cummins came here in 1848. He lived for six years on a farm near Pontiac. He was a native of Ohio and located in Indiana in 1828. In 1833 he tramped on foot to Fort Clark, now Peoria. He returned to Ohio the same winter and then located near Pontiac. Philip K. Hilton became a permanent settler in 1850. He first arrived in 1837, stopping with his brother on Mud creek. In 1842 he left for New Orleans on a flat boat. On the return trip, the boat was blown up and his hands and face were badly scalded. He returned that same winter, but did not begin farming for himself until 1850.

Apollos Camp and Bennet Humiston came here in October, 1852. Both were born in Plymouth (since known as Thomaston), Connecticut. Mr. Camp had for eighteen years been superintendent in the Seth Thomas clock works at Hartford, and was married to Mr. Thomas' daughter. The following year, he returned to his old home and in May he moved his family here, and purchased 800 acres of land, some being in Amity Township. Mr. Humiston in 1856 married Mr. and Mrs. Camp's only daughter, and together they formed a partnership and engaged in the stock business. Mr. Camp removed to Pontiac in 1880, laid out an addition to the city, and became a stockholder in one of the banks. It is said of him that one one occasion he requested a tenant to accompany him to the recorder's office and pay \$1.00 he owed there. The tenant did so, and upon payment of the dollar was handed a warranty deed to the farm, the only stipulation being that he should pay the usual rental during his lifetime. Mr. Humiston removed to Pontiac in 1876. He died November 14, 1883. Both were stanch Democrats and members of the Baptist church.

David Brown, Isaac Dickey, Cornelius Wal-

rath and James Day came the same year, the first three locating on Mud creek. Day was the first school treasurer in the township.

Moses Ross, Joseph Finley and Joseph Campbell settled here in 1853. In connection with general farming, Ross also engaged in blacksmithing. Finley came here from Kane County, where his parents had located in 1839. He erected the first frame house built along the creek in this part of the county. Campbell came here from Vermillion County, where he had settled in 1837. William Brunskill, Abner W. Camp, John Johnson, William Allen, Andrew J. Corbin and Thomas Pearson arrived in 1855. J. N. Barr, J. W. Turner and W. R. Babcock became settlers in 1856. Barr taught school in the winter of 1859-60. When Esmen Township was first organized he was elected collector. Babcock was the first supervisor, and held the office from 1859 to and including 1863. He was assessor during 1864-65. C. W. Sterry, Simeon Dunham, H. D. Roberts and Daniel Mackinson were among the arrivals in 1857. Mr. Sterry held the office of supervisor three years, town clerk for six years, and town treasurer for six years. He afterward moved to Pontiac, where he died, leaving a large estate. John Fitzgerald came here in 1858 and Abraham Imrie and Samuel R. Jenkins in 1859. The latter removed to Iroquois County in 1869. David Knight, Arlineus Brower and Henry Marsh were here at the close of the '50s. The lower half of the township is now settled with Norwegians, all of whom are prosperous.

In 1855, there were two public schools in the county. There were ninety-seven persons under twenty-one years of age, of whom forty-two attended the schools. The township now has its full quota. Esmen has three churches—Methodist Episcopal, Baptist and Norwegian Lutheran. The former is located in the center of the township, the Baptist on the north, and the Lutheran in the village of Rowe. Camp's cemetery is located in the center of the township.

VILLAGE OF ROWE.

The village of Rowe is located on the southeast quarter of section 32. It was platted by James Rowe in 1871, who owned the land and gave it its name. The village is on the Wabash road, between Pontiac and Cornell and has a population of about thirty inhabitants. It has three grain elevators and a general store. The

latter is owned by Christian Ryning, who is also postmaster. Rowe has but one church, the Norwegian Lutheran, and this denomination also has a parochial school. The church was built in 1876, and has since been remodeled. Another edifice erected in 1864, about a mile northwest of the village, was torn down several years ago, the two denominations consolidating.

FAYETTE TOWNSHIP.

This township was the last one to be organized in the county. By a resolution of the board of supervisors at its session held in February, 1870, "so much of Belle Prairie as lies in town 25, range 7, is erected into a new township, and named Fayette." This made thirty organized townships in the county, all being fully six square miles, except Fayette, Belle Prairie and Germanville, containing each about two-thirds of a full township, the "unfortunate rotundity" of the earth interfering to prevent their full growth. This township is mostly rolling prairie, with but a few sections that are low and flat, that have recently been well drained, and is wholly devoid of native timber. This township was not settled until in the '60s. Eight sections of the original Sullivant farm (44,000 acres) lies in this township.

Rees Morgan was the first permanent settler, coming here in June, 1863. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk War of 1832, and was with Col. Stillman in his memorable defeat at Paw Paw Grove, which occurred on May 14 of that year. Mr. Morgan first located on section 16, which proved to be a school section. He was permitted to occupy it for seven years, when it was sold, according to law, for school purposes.

B. F. Brandon arrived in the spring of 1864, locating on section 8, where he remained a few years, sold out and removed to La Salle county. The McCormicks settled here in 1865. Charles Wilson came in 1866 from Kendall County, as also did John and Thomas Brownlee from Knox County. James, Benjamin and Robert Turner, John and David Pursley, George Seaton, Charles Wilson, James and Henry McCormick, Thomas H. Aaron and Joseph Koontz are also among the earlier settlers. The township has many Germans and Irish families within its borders.

The census of 1870, showed but 260 inhabi-

tants—men, women and children. But twenty votes were cast in the election held on November 8, of that year, the vote for congressman-at large being; John A. Logan, 9; W. B. Anderson, 11.

The first birth was Rose McCormick, a daughter of James and Jane McCormick, who was born December 15, 1865. The first marriage was that of Moses K. McDowell and Mary Morgan, and the second that of David R. Morgan (a brother of the first bride) and Jennie McDowell (sister of the first bridegroom).

The first school was taught by Miss Rebecca Morgan, in 1868. The little structure was located on section 6. Since then, several school buildings have been erected. Politically, the township is about evenly divided between the Republicans and Democrats.

VILLAGE OF STRAWN.

This village was laid out June 6, 1873, by David Strawn, of Ottawa, who owned the land, and was one of the directors in the construction of the Fairbury, Pontiac and Northwestern road (now the Wabash) from Streator to Strawn. The road was completed to this village in 1873. The original plat contained 30 acres, in section 3. Mr. Strawn to induce settlers to locate in the village, gave each alternate lot to such as would erect houses, under certain specifications, by September 1 of that year. No "shanties" were to be erected. The first lot was selected by E. H. Roberts, who erected building and opened for business on July 1. The postoffice was established October 6, and Mr. Roberts was appointed postmaster. The first dwelling was erected by John Colfer. A small school house was built in 1874, the teacher being Sarah Hanagan, of Ottawa. A fine school house has been erected since. The Methodist society was organized the same year. The present Methodist church was dedicated on Sunday, November 21, 1880, by Rev. J. G. Evans. The Catholics have recently erected a fine edifice. The residents voted to incorporate as a village on December 1, 1879, and on December 29 following the first trustees were elected. The Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Woodmen have flourishing lodges. A large portion of the business houses are built facing the beautiful park in the center of the town. Good fire protection is furnished by the system of water-works.

FORREST TOWNSHIP.

Originally, this township, together with Chatsworth and Germanville, was known as Oliver's Grove Township. At the meeting of the board of supervisors in 1861, Forrest petitioned that body to be set off, which was granted. Much of the land before settlement was low and swampy. The only natural timber lies in the northwest corner of the township, along the banks of Forrest creek.

Charles Jones and sons, Thomas and Theodore, came here from Bordentown, New Jersey in the summer of 1836 and located on the identical spot where the village of Forrest now stands. They remained here until 1847, when they removed to Pontiac, thence to Belle Prairie Township, and later to Fairbury, selling their claim to James Beard. The land purchased by Beard caused some litigation in the courts. It was only a forty acre tract, yet resulted in a lawsuit of huge proportions. After being continued from one term of court to another, the suit was finally dismissed.

John Thompson came in 1837 and located in the southeast corner of the township. Settlements in those days in what is now Forrest Township, were like "angel visits," few and far between. He was obliged to travel twenty miles to the nearest grocery store and often brought home his purchases on his back. Though he was a man of large means in those days, he died comparatively poor. The land upon which he located did not come into market until after his death, consequently he could not purchase. The first two years after his arrival he did not raise a crop, and in addition to this, he lost most of his cattle and horses with milk sickness. On one occasion, wolves came around the cabin while he was away, and his wife stood for hours in the doorway with an axe. Mr. Thompson remained upon his original settlement until his death, which occurred in 1849. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and after his death his widow succeeding in getting a land warrant for his services, which she laid on section 16—the section on which they originally located. Orin Phelps was the next settler. He was a native of New Jersey. He was married a few years later to Elizabeth Jones, a daughter of Charles Jones. To them a child was born—Byron—supposed to be the first birth in the township. In 1869, Byron was elected county clerk. The elder Phelps re-

moved to Belle Prairie Township in 1847, disposing of his claim to Samuel Hillery, who located on the tract. In the '70s, Mr. Phelps move to Fairbury. Among those who located in the '50s were John Towner, George Williams, Fred Fansler, James Fansler, George, Charles and Frederick Crawford.

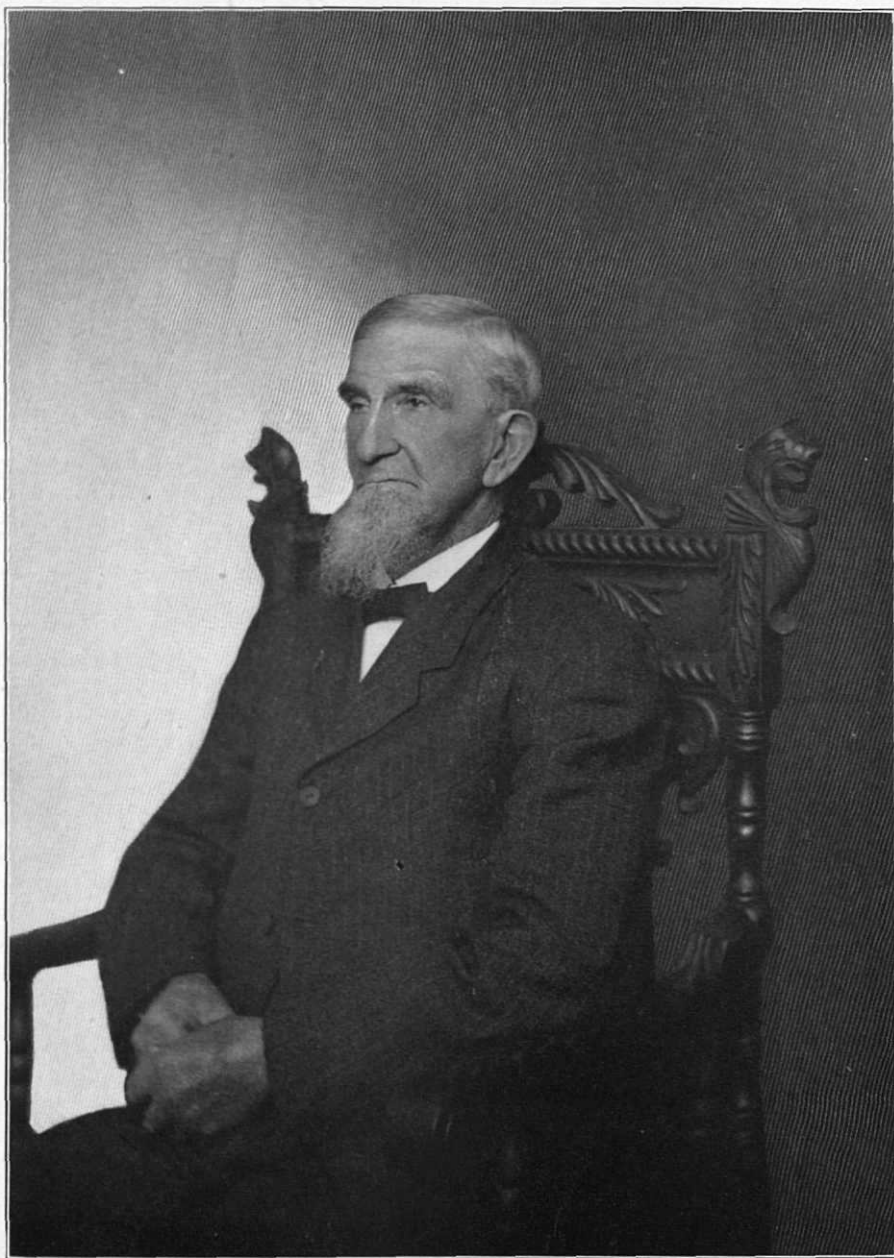
Israel J. Krack came here in 1854 from Tippecanoe County, Indiana. He afterward platted and laid out the village of Forrest. In 1877 he was elected county treasurer. Among those who settled here during the later '50s and in the '60s were John Francis, Joel R. Strawn, John Wallace, James Snyder, John Harper, William Edwards, Springer Dixon, John McCrystal, Charles Holmes, Albert Davis, Robert Montgomery, Thomas G. Riley, W. P. Cook, Robert V. Downing, Robert and John Norman, Peter Somers, Bronson Smith, Edward Broadhead, William Rook, Thomas Weeks, H. B. Watson, Nicholas Wilson, George H. Townsend.

John Towner was the first supervisor, being elected in 1862. Charles Crawford, Samuel Hillery and James Fansler were the first school trustees, having been elected in 1854. In 1856, John Towner was elected school treasurer, and a tax of ten cents on the \$100 was voted for school purposes, the township at that time being in one school district. The first death in the township was a son of John Thompson. The wife of Charles Jones died in 1841. In the early days, the few people living here attended religious services at Indian Grove and Avoca.

Forrest at one time was the banner Republican Township in the county, and has never gone Democratic. Two of its citizens—Lucian Bullard and Rev. Melancthon C. Eignus—were elected to the State Legislature, I. J. Krack was elected county treasurer and Fred Duckett as county clerk. The latter held the office for three terms.

VILLAGE OF FORREST.

Although the Peoria and Oquawka Railroad, now the Toledo, Peoria and Weston road, was completed through Forrest Township in 1857, it was not until December 11, 1866, that the village was surveyed and platted by I. J. Krack. He built the first house in the village, was the first station agent and the first postmaster. He later laid out two additions. The village was incorporated in 1870. The village, as well as the township, was named in honor of Mr. Forrest, of New York. Forrest did not grow much in



David S Crown

population until after the Wabash road passed through, when it was made a division and a round-house erected. The village has several blocks of brick buildings, a \$30,000 brick school house, and several fine churches. The streets are lighted with electric lights furnished from the plant at Fairbury. Several efforts have been made to sink a coal mine, but have resulted in financial loss. It has one newspaper, the Rambler. The village has had two disastrous fires, each time in the business district, one occurring in the winter of 1869 and the other on December 31, 1872. Among the secret and fraternal orders there is located here the Odd Fellows, Masons, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. It has one bank, of which J. V. McDowell is president.

Among those who have taken a prominent part in the building up of the village we mention Stephen A. Hoyt, E. P. Beebe, H. B. Watson, Bronson Smith, Lucian Bullard, Daniel Duckett, Fred Duckett, James B. Hinman, J. P. Knight, Jacob L. Spoor, Allen A. Burton, W. D. Lee, H. C. Twitchell, J. L. Delatour, J. G. Fitch, J. A. Coyner, J. A. Fulwiler.

I. J. Krack erected the first elevator and later sold it to Hoyt and Beebe. R. B. Wilson erected a mill in 1870. It was used mostly in grinding feed. William Underfield built the first hotel in 1870. A two-story frame school building was erected in 1869. This was torn down and a brick building, costing in the neighborhood of \$30,000, was erected on the site.

The village has four churches—Methodist, Catholic, Congregational and Christian. The Methodist church was erected in 1876, the first minister being Rev. Myron Dewey. The Congregational church was built in 1874. The Catholic and Christian churches have been built in recent years. The cemetery is located on the John Wallace farm, about one-half mile south of the village.

Forrest Lodge, No. 614, A. F. & A. M. was chartered October 5, 1869. William D. Lee was the first master. Good Will Lodge, No. 379, I. O. O. F. was instituted January 9, 1869. J. A. Fulwiler was the first noble grand.

The early supervisors were John Towner, John G. Harper, Bronson Smith, Lucian Bullard, Stephen A. Hoyt, Israel J. Krack, J. P. Knight, E. W. Dickinson.

Among the early merchants were Hinman and Delatour, Lucian Bullard and Daniel Duckett;

Thayer and Nickerson conducted a blacksmith and wagon shop; H. C. Twitchell was an insurance agent; W. D. Lee and J. L. Spoor were justices of the peace.

One of the most prominent citizens was Judge Allan A. Burton. He was born in Kentucky and became a noted lawyer in his native state. In politics he was a Whig, of the anti-slavery type, although of a pro-slavery family, and co-operated with the Republican party from its earliest formation and long before the party had any regular organization in Kentucky. He was defeated for the legislature in that state. He was one of the delegates to frame the new constitution of Kentucky, and favored the insertion of a clause of prospective emancipation. In 1860 he was a delegate from that state to the convention at Chicago which nominated Abraham Lincoln to the presidency, and was a candidate for presidential elector for the state at large on the Republican ticket in the campaign of that year.

Lincoln appointed him United States Judge for the Territory of Dakota, and a short time afterward he was appointed United States Minister to Bogota, in the United States of Colombia, South America, which position he held for six years. After his return from Bogota, he resumed the practice of law in Lancaster, Ky., with an office in Washington, D. C. In 1871, President Grant appointed him secretary and interpreter of the San Domingo commission, and he furnished a report of the proceedings of the commission to the government. He was stricken with paralysis on July 29, 1876, and shortly afterward moved to Forrest. His residence was located in a grove on the south edge of the village, in which was located a park stocked with deer. His library contained over 1,000 volumes, in which were many valuable books rarely found in a private library. He received a second stroke of paralysis on July 9, 1878, from the effects of which he died four days later. His remains were buried in the cemetery near Lancaster, Ky., the home of his childhood.

GERMANVILLE TOWNSHIP.

This township is located in the extreme southeastern corner of the county. At the September meeting of the board of supervisors for 1867, this township petitioned for separation from

Chatsworth Township, and the same was granted. It was first called Germantown, but in recent years has been known by its present name. Fully three-fourths of the residents are Germans, they being the first settlers, and for that reason it probably derives its name. The township has neither a railroad nor a postoffice. Citizens receive their mail from Chatsworth, Strawn and Melvin, and their trading is done at these places.

The first actual settler in the township was Thomas Y. Brown, who hailed from Jefferson County, New York, arriving in 1855, purchasing 1200 acres of land at \$5 per acre. Nicholas Froebe and William P. Goembel settled here the following year, both being natives of Hesse-Cassel, Germany. Goembel was the first supervisor of the township. Mr. Froebe also served in that capacity. John Leggate, a native of Scotland, came with his family in 1857, from Ontario, Canada. He was commonly called "Squire," having been elected to the office of justice of the peace for over twenty years. Samuel T. Fosdick arrived in 1858. He later removed to Chatsworth. Thomas Curran settled here in 1859. Among those who settled later, many of whom are still living in the township, are George Koestner, Charles Storr, Philip and Henry Ruppel, Jacob Schade, A. B. Minnerly, Henry Netherton, Daniel D. Moore, Peter P. Freehill, J. G. Lockner, Henry Hornickie, Henry Hummel, Fidel Hummel.

There are six school houses in the township, and a German Evangelical (Methodist) church located on the farm of Henry Ruppel. The first school was taught in 1859. In politics, the township is about equally divided between the Republicans and Democrats.

INDIAN GROVE TOWNSHIP.

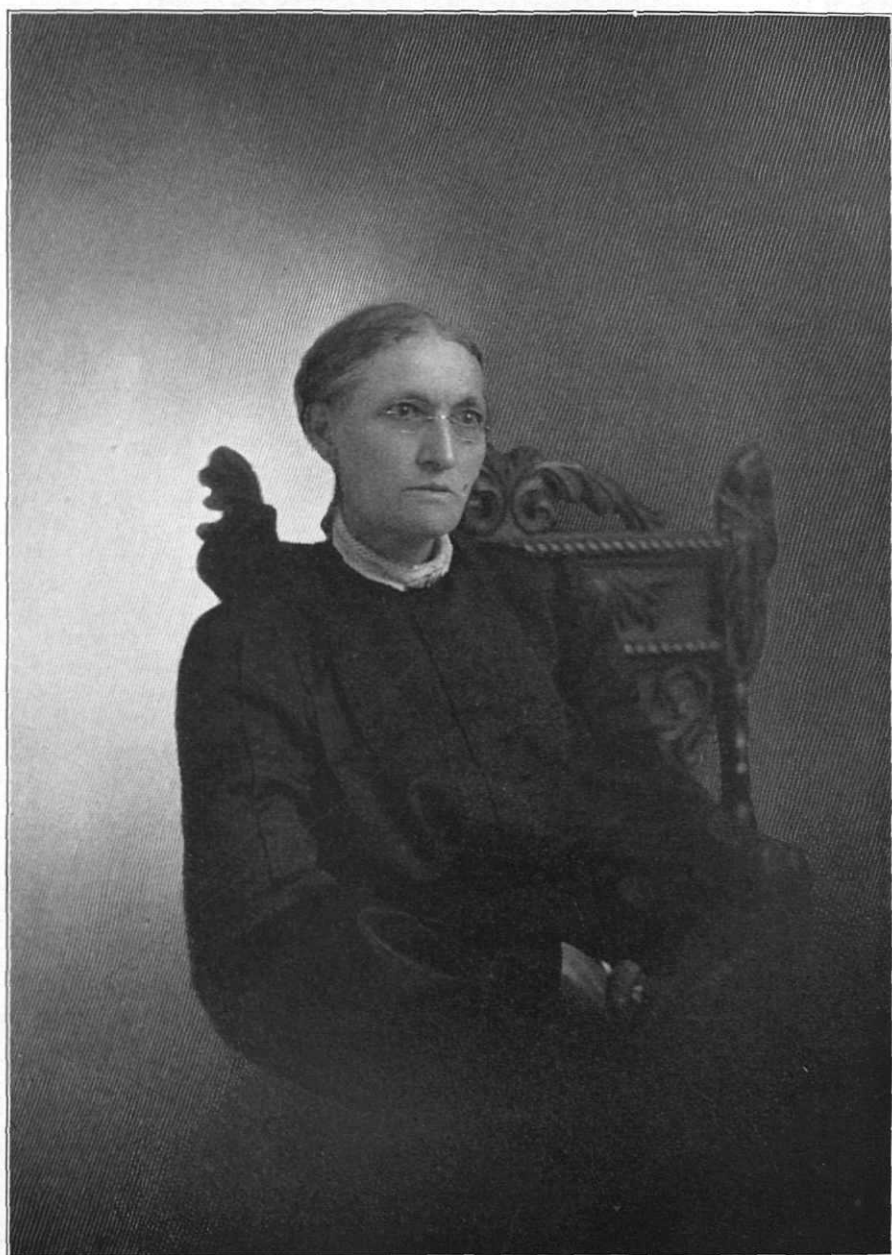
This township was among the first to be settled in this county. It is bounded on the north by Avoca, on the east by Forrest, on the south by Belle Prairie, and on the west by McLean County. It is about one-fourth timber to three-fourths prairie, and is drained by Indian Creek, which flows through it from the southwest to northeast, and empties into the Vermillion river, two miles northeast of Fairbury.

When the county adopted township organization in 1857, in the process of naming this township was called Worth, but discovering that

there was a Worth Township in the adjoining county of Woodford, Francis J. Moore, one of the earlier settlers of this township, suggested Indian Grove, which was adopted. It takes its name from the Indian settlement or camp once in the forest along Indian creek, which receives its name from the same source. In 1828 previous to the Indians locating at Oliver's Grove, they had their wigwams or lodges in the timber, on what is now the farm of H. B. Taylor, located three miles southwest of Fairbury. Until 1857, Indian Grove, as an election precinct, embraced that portion of the county lying east of the mouth of the Vermillion river—or more properly speaking, east of the old village of Avoca, in Avoca Township. The first white man to make a permanent settlement in this township was Joseph Moore. Like the earlier settlers of Belle Prairie Township, he also hailed from Overton County, Tennessee. He arrived in the fall of 1831. Mr. Moore made the journey on horseback, or rather his wife came on horseback and carried their only child, a boy, in her lap, while he trudged along on foot. He staked out a claim in the timber, erected a cabin and lived there until his death in October, 1851.

A. B. Phillips and family settled here the following spring. He was an old neighbor of the Moore family in Tennessee, and located near them. A few years later, while hunting some hogs that had strayed from his place he came unexpectedly on the colony in Avoca Township, and was surprised on finding white people, he thinking that the only settlement was in Belle Prairie Township, a short distance south of him. In those days, he was dressed in backwoods attire, and at times it was hard to tell whether he was a white man or an Indian. His son, John R. Phillips, was the first white child born in this county. The latter enlisted in Company E, 129th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was raised in Fairbury, on August 8, 1862, being made a corporal, and died of smallpox at Tullahoma, Tenn., on March 17, 1864. His remains were interred there. The elder Phillips served as deputy sheriff in 1850 and constable fourteen years. The first election in Indian Grove precinct, was held at his house on June 24, 1837. He died January 4, 1881.

The same year (1831), John Darnall arrived with his family from Kentucky. He was a brother of Valentine M. Darnall, the first settler in the county, who had located in Belle



Jane E. Curran

Prairie Township the year previous. He was a Baptist minister, and until churches were erected, held religious meetings in the various cabins. He also officiated at the first two marriages in Belle Prairie Township, the brides in both instances being his nieces. He was also a kind of leader in all religious, social and political affairs. He was one of the first judges of election in Indian Grove precinct in 1837. In 1853 he was elected associate justice of the county. He was first justice of the peace and the first postmaster. His appointment to the latter position came in this manner: "As the country settled up, the people of the neighborhood concluded they must have a postoffice, and accordingly they petitioned for one. The name of Robert Smith, a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher, who had settled in the locality about 1836, was mentioned in the petition for postmaster, but as he (Smith) was the only Whig in the settlement, and Long John Wentworth, of Chicago, then a strong Democrat, and representative of this district in congress, thought it would not do to have a Whig as postmaster, and so, without leave or license, had Darnell appointed instead of Smith." Mr. Darnell in the '80s removed to Oregon. Several families settled here during 1834—Richard Moore, Francis Moore, Jonathan Moore, Lewis Moore, Isam Moore, Malachi Spence and son, James, David Travis and Mrs. Glen Phillips, a widow. Richard Moore was born in North Carolina, but removed with his parents at any early age to Tennessee. He came to this locality in April, 1834, staked out a claim and built his cabin. The following year he made a trip overland to Chicago, when the stores of that city consisted of six log structures. During the Black Hawk War, he served in the capacity of teamster, hauling provisions with ox teams from Peru and Ottawa. He was a member of the first petit jury drawn in the county. Isam Moore settled here a few months later than his brothers, Richard and Joseph. During his residence here he held the following offices: justice of the peace, fourteen years; constable, six years; school trustee, twenty years; assessor and collector, one term each.

Malachi Spence and son, James, also from Tennessee, came here during the summer of 1834. The wife of the former died in that state in 1817. Malachi died June 1, 1847, and his son, James, then continued to live on the old homestead until his death, which occurred March

16, 1881. The remains of both are reposing in the little cemetery on the east side of the road near their old home. David Travis, who was quite an old man when he arrived here, did not stay long, not liking the outlook of frontier life, and after a year or two, he returned to Tennessee. Francis J. Moore and brother Jonathan, and Lewis Moore, a cousin, were the next Tennesseans to arrive. The latter soon thereafter returned to his native state. Francis J. Moore first settled on the west side of the grove, but in a year or two he "swapped" claims with a neighbor, and moved over on the east side. He had the honor of naming this township. Jonathan Moore had more or less to do with county affairs soon after his arrival. In 1837, the year this county was organized and the county seat located, at an election held at the home of Andrew McMillan, northwest of Pontiac, he was elected one of the first three county commissioners. This body for several years thereafter held its meetings at the home of Mr. McMillan. Mr. Moore also held various township offices.

In 1835 or 1836, Rice Donoho and sons, Wilson Y. and Jefferson, settled in this neighborhood. All of them have long since died, and their remains were laid to rest in Cooper cemetery. Wilson Donoho served on the first grand jury in the county.

Chancy Standish came here in 1835 from New York. He was a school teacher, and shortly after his arrival, the people at once set to work to build a log house for school purposes. This was the first school house erected in the township. In this building Standish taught the first school. He was compensated for his services by contributions, although at times the sum was quite meagre. It was some time before there was any public money for school purposes.

Robert Smith settled here in 1836, having previously lived in Morgan County, this state. He was a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. The following year he built the first grist mill in the township. In 1839, two years after the county was organized, he was appointed the first assessor of Indian Grove precinct. At that time there were but three precincts in the county, the names of the other two being Center and Bayou. He was reappointed in 1840. He was also appointed the first school commissioner. He removed to Peoria some years prior to his death, which occurred in 1867. The above comprised nearly all of the first settlers, as far as we have

been able to ascertain, in what is now Indian Grove Township, to locate in the '30s. All have long since passed away.

Prior to 1837, this section of the county was embraced in McLean County, and the land was not yet in market when these settlements were made. It was the custom to blaze out a claim and squat wherever one suited, provided no one had a previous claim. They settled in and around the timber, never thinking that in after years the broad prairies would amount to much for anything but pasturage.

But two families settled here in the '40s—Decatur Veatch and Henry Darnall, the former arriving in 1846 and the latter in 1849. Mr. Veatch had for two years previous lived in McLean County. In 1849 he built the first saw mill in the township. During his residence here he held many offices of trust. He died June 3, 1873. Henry Darnall came here from Madison County, Kentucky. He served four years as justice of the peace and was school director for seven years.

Jeremiah Travis, who settled with his father in Belle Prairie Township in 1834, related that in 1847 he drove hogs to Chicago, requiring eighteen days to make the trip, most of the distance being in slush and mud up to the top of his boots. On these trips he frequently had to cut brush and lay it down for a foundation for a bed to keep him out of the mud and water. On this pile he would place blankets and despite rain and storm, he slept soundly. On reaching his destination the hogs were slaughtered, and after hanging for twenty-four hours were weighed, and he was paid \$1.50 per hundred weight. In early times, he also engaged in driving cattle and hauling wheat and oats to the Chicago markets, and the prices he received for these products were in about the same proportion as that obtained for his hogs.

Among those who settled here during the '50s were R. G. Crouch, Chester F. Crouch, John Kring, John Atkins, Lorenzo Beach and son Thomas, C. C. Bartlett, Thomas A. Jones, Henry Hornbeck, Hugh McKee, R. C. Straight, Robert Rumbold, S. D. Duell, John Cumpston and sons, Jacob Davis, James F. Earnheart, Caleb Patton, Daniel R. Potter, Gilbert Evans, John Sorg.

The first death in the county was that of Esther Spence, daughter of Malachi Spence, who died in 1832. She was buried in the little ceme-

tery named after her father, just north of where Martin Darnall settled in 1830. Her coffin was made of walnut slabs, split out of the timber from her father's farm, hewed down and then dressed smooth.

The only churches in the township, outside of Fairbury, are the Union church, in the southern part, and the Amish church, in the southeast corner. Union church was completed in 1861, and is occupied by the Baptists and Christians, although neither denomination has any regular minister at the present time.

The township has nine school districts and ten frame school houses. This does not include the school houses in Fairbury. From an examination of the early school records, we find that on April 1, 1857, a meeting of the trustees—James Spence, Chancey Standish and James Moore—was held at the home of John Darnall, the school treasurer. The school fund at that time consisted of \$721.20, in notes; fund for school and interest, \$67.70; fund on hand in notes, \$170. There were but five school districts in the township at this time. The early records are rather poorly kept.

The first road through the township was the state road leading from the state line to Peoria. This road was about one-half mile from the south line of the township, and has long since been abandoned.

The political complexion of the township has undergone a great change within the past fifty years. In the early days the township gave large Democratic majorities, but for many years the Republicans have been in control. John Cumpston was the first supervisor.

CITY OF FAIRBURY.

Although the first settler arrived in Indian Grove Township in 1831, it was not until twenty-six years later that there was a village within its borders. The post office at that time was at the home of John Darnall, three miles south, on the mail route from Danville to Bloomington, Philip Hopper was one of the carriers. When the eastern extension of the Peoria and Oquawka railroad (now the Toledo, Peoria and Western) made a survey through the northern tier of sections in this township in 1857, John Atkins, Salmon G. Cone and Caleb L. Patton each made a proposition to the stockholders of the company for the location of a town site. Octave Chanute was one of the civil engineers of the

road, and Mr. Patton agreed to give him one-half of the town lots provided he would locate the village on his farm. The proposition was accepted, and on November 10, 1857, Mr. Patton laid out twenty-four blocks from portions of sections 3 and 10. The village for a time was called South Avoca. Mr. Chanute wanted it named Pattonsburg, in honor of Mr. Patton, but the latter gave the town the name it now bears. In 1859, Mr. Patton disposed of his interest in the town lots to Andrew J. Cropsey.

The railroad was constructed through the village in 1857, running east and west through the center of the town. Mr. Atkins secured an injunction to restrain the railroad company from passing through his farm, but before the papers could be served, the track had been put down. That portion of the village north of the railroad track was planted in sod corn and sown in wheat. John Coomer erected the first house in the village in the winter of 1857, on the corner of Fourth and Walnut streets. He moved into his house on December 31, although it was not completed, pieces of carpet taking the place of doors and windows for nearly two months. Mrs. Coomer died March 19, 1908. The first store building, a two-story frame structure, was built in the spring of 1858, by A. L. Pogue, R. B. Amsbary and David Thomas. The building is still standing on the original site at the corner Fifth and Main streets. William Mitchell erected a building the same summer, south of the railroad track, and opened a grocery store. George W. Morris erected the first hotel in the village. It stood on the northwest corner of Fourth and Elm streets. It was afterward moved to the main street and destroyed by fire in 1880. Michael Gately and O. S. Mason conducted the first blacksmith shop.

The first elevator was erected in the fall of 1855 by B. F. Fitch and J. H. Van Eman. A. L. Pogue and C. C. Bartlett built the second one the following year. The first flouring mill was built in the fall of 1859, but was destroyed by fire in 1872. Benjamin Walton erected a mill in 1866, which was burned August 12, 1868. He erected a three-story structure in 1869, on the site of the one destroyed, as a mill and elevator. This was burned to the ground on the morning of October 11, 1884. Amsbary and Jones and H. M. Gillette built elevators later than those mentioned above.

The first bank was established in 1864 by W.

G. McDowell and Nelson E. Lyman. Three years later, John J. Taylor was admitted as a partner. In 1874 it was organized as the First National Bank, with I. P. McDowell as president and N. E. Lyman as cashier. T. S. O. McDowell is now president. On June 15, 1874, Bartlett, Beach and Dominy commenced the banking business. Mr. Bartlett withdrew from the firm in January, 1879, and Beach and Dominy continued the business, Mr. Beach retiring in 1894. Mr. Dominy continued the business until his death, and was succeeded by W. R. Bane and Herbert Powell. Three other banks are doing business in addition to the above—A. B. Claudon, McDowell Brothers and Walton Brothers.

The first school was held in a building erected on the lot where John Cliff's residence now stands with Miss Jennie Stoddard as teacher. Part of the building is now occupied by Patton John as a residence. The first school building was erected in 1860. It stood where the present high school building now stands, north of the railroad. The first teacher was Smith Olney. The first school building on the south side, a two-story frame structure, was completed in 1868 at a cost of \$3,500. The building was destroyed by fire in June, 1880. School was held the following winter in McDowell's hall. The present south side school building was erected at a cost of \$12,296. The first high school commencement exercises were held at the opera house on the evening of May 22, 1881. There were three graduates—Misses Mabel Rogers, Ella Wade and Ora Phillips.

The first postoffice in the village was established in 1858, the first postmaster being Henry McKee. The mail was then carried from Pontiac to Lexington on horseback, a round trip being made each week. Later a mail route was established from Fairbury to Pontiac, and from Fairbury to Potosi. The latter was discontinued May 31, 1881.

The census of 1860 gave Fairbury a population of 269, and the next four years the village grew rapidly owing to the opening of the coal mine. It was then decided to organize under village laws and charter. At the election held on August 8, 1864, (John Coomer was president and C. C. Bartlett officiated as clerk) 80 votes were cast for incorporation and 26 against. The first board of trustees were Delos Wright, I. P. McDowell, J. H. Van Eman, Henry L. Marsh and E. F. Joy. Henry L. Marsh was elected presi-

dent, W. G. McDowell clerk, and Robert McKee, police magistrate. Fairbury continued under town organization until February 3, 1890, when it voted to adopt village organization, and at an election held February 3, 1890 it voted to become a city.

Three brothers named Barnard erected a woolen mill in 1868 where Claudon's elevator now stands. The venture did not pay, and after losing thousands of dollars, it was sold to Sacriste and Son, who fared no better. Sheep raising did not pay in an early day, owing to the wet land, the disease called "foot rot" prevailed as to render the raising of sheep entirely profitless. The machinery was afterward moved to California and the building was carried away by piece-meal.

The first coal mine was sunk in the fall of 1861 by Henry L. Marsh at a cost of \$35,000. Previous to August 22 of that year the second attempt to sink a coal shaft on this farm proved a failure on account of too much water. On the above date ground was broken the third time. After many difficulties, coal was reached January 14, 1863, measuring four feet ten inches. At that date it was the only coal shaft in central Illinois. In 1867 the shaft was sunk still deeper to a lower vein. The mine was leased to John Watson in 1877 and he continued to operate until March 16, 1881, when the shaft was abandoned. The sinking of the second mine east of the village was commenced in April, 1867, coal being found at a depth of 160 feet. This was owned by a stock company of which Amsbary and Jones were at the head. James Gibb was superintendent. The mine was sold April 6, 1881, to Porter, Wager and Company, for \$6,000. This mine has also been abandoned. In March, 1878, James Gibb, Robert Knight, Michael Hotchkiss and John Kirkwood, purchased at trustee's sale for \$1,000 six acres of the Marsh land, just west of the village, and also purchased the right to the coal under seventy acres in the same vicinity. At a depth of 176 feet they reached a vein four and a half feet thick at a cost of nearly \$10,000. This mine was sold on June 12, 1881, to Walton Brothers for \$10,000. They operated the mine for twenty-two years, when they sold it to a stock company. The mine was abandoned in 1906. Two mines, both run on the co-operative plan, are now in operation—one located one-

half mile south of the city, the other one mile west of the city.

The Presbyterian church was organized July 25, 1858, with ten members, by Rev. Benjamin R. Drake, then acting pastor. The elders were E. H. McQuig, H. H. McKee and Joseph Rumbold. The church, a frame structure, 25x40 feet, was erected in the summer of 1862, on the site where the Amish church now stands. Rev. I. T. Whittemore of Pontiac supplied the pulpit. Soon after this, Rev. Thomas Hempstead was elected pastor and he remained until 1866. About this time a serious division occurred in the church and a new organization was formed, known as the "Old School" church, with Rev. John Dale as pastor. Rev. C. D. White was called to minister over the First church. At the expiration of the services of these two pastors, the two organizations came together and agreed to meet in one church and employ one minister. Rev. M. B. Gregg was secured for two years, and after the union of the two branches of the Presbyterian church in America, the two organizations in Fairbury united organically, and Rev. J. N. Hutchinson was ordained as pastor in May, 1871. At this time the elders were E. W. Lyman, J. W. Rogers, Samuel Bally, Alexander Harbison and H. L. Bruce. The trustees were William Blain, W. N. Combs and W. H. Taylor. The congregation disposed of this building and in 1881 erected a new edifice, which has since been remodeled and enlarged. The Sunday school was organized in 1863, with William Mitchell as superintendent.

The Methodist church was organized in July, 1858, under the pastorate of Rev. J. W. Stubbles, who was then stationed at Avoca, with the following members: Lorenzo Beach, Edith Beach, John Kring, Rachel Kring, Catherine Kring, John Potter, Francis Moore, Garrison Bowen, John Busey, Nancy Busey. The first church building was erected in the fall of 1858. It was a frame structure 32x55 feet. It was enlarged in 1866. A story and basement brick edifice was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1876. On July 2, 1877, it was destroyed by a tornado. Another building was erected and dedicated January 20, 1878. This building was torn down in 1905 and the present edifice erected. The first Sunday school was organized in the spring of 1859, with Jacob Hunt as superintendent.

The Baptist church, a brick structure, 38x50



MR. AND MRS. JOHN H. CRUMBAKER

feet, was erected in 1865, and dedicated by Rev. Joseph Cairns, its pastor. This building has since been enlarged and remodeled. The first Sunday school was organized in 1864.

The Catholic congregation was organized in 1857, although regular services were not held until ten years afterward. The first priest was Rev. Father O'Neill, who was in charge of the parish at Pontiac, and he was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Quigley. In 1867, Rev. John Fanning was assigned to this charge and the following year a frame building, 33x60 feet, was built. The building was afterward enlarged, owing to increasing membership. In 1903 the present brick edifice was erected, on the corner of Fourth and Ash streets.

The Christian, Free Methodist, German Apostolic, and Episcopal denomination, all have large and modern church buildings.

The village cemetery, located in the southwestern part of the city, was laid out August 30, 1855, the first burial being the wife of David Hughes. Since then an addition has been laid out on the north, and Morris' addition on the east. The Catholic cemetery is located one mile northeast of the city.

The first drain tile factory was built by R. C. Straight in October, 1878, on his farm west of the city. For a number of years this was the only factory of its kind in the county.

George W. Kring in 1866 commenced the manufacture of a cultivator and later a corn-planter—both being his own invention.

Fairbury has had more destructive fires than any other town in the county, especially during the period from 1867 to 1880, at the time the "east and west end fight" was at its height. The first conflagration of any note occurred on the afternoon of October 11, 1867, when a spark from a railroad engine set Parker Dresser's grain elevator on fire and the flames communicated to a row of wooden business buildings on the north side of the street, destroyed eighteen store rooms, involving a loss of \$75,000. This fire resulted in litigation against the railroad company. The suits were pending in the courts for over six years, but the plaintiffs never recovered damages. This block was immediately rebuilt, but on September 3, 1869, the stores of Demas Elliott, James Bright, James Price, Gebhardt Fent, Ferdinand Schmitz and Greenbaum & Brothers, were destroyed by fire. N. S. McDonald's wagon shop in the west end was burned the same night. Both

fires were the work of an incendiary. On the morning of February 22, 1868, fire was discovered in Lisenby's law office, located in a two-story frame building at the corner of Fourth and Locust streets. All the buildings in the block were burned to the ground. This fire was also the work of an incendiary. On the morning of May 3, 1870, fire destroyed Amsbary & Jones' elevator, Jones' hall, Burch & Havermale's drug store, T. F. Kiff's grocery store and Joseph T. Jones' restaurant. The loss was placed at \$38,000. The Livingston hotel, built in 1866 and located in the extreme west end of the town, was burned in December, 1877. The hotel was a two-story wooden building, and was used also as a depot and waiting room for passengers. It was never rebuilt. On the evening of December 3, 1869, four brick business buildings located in the east end, occupied by N. F. Small & Co., Geo. T. Elliott & Co., Beach & Scott and Pindar Brothers, were burned to the ground. The loss was placed at \$50,000. The fire originated in the cellar of Elliott & Co.'s store. The Wilson grist mill was burned September 9, 1871. It was owned by H. M. Gillette, but had been leased by Amsbary & Jones. The loss on mill was \$12,000, and was insured for \$5,000. On the morning of April 16, 1880, fire was discovered in the attic of the Central Hotel, a three-story frame building located in the center of a business block, and in a short time the hotel and twelve wooden business buildings were destroyed. On Sunday night, January 15, 1871, some person poured kerosene over the benches and chairs which were piled in one corner of McDowell's hall and then set fire to them. The fire was discovered in time to save the building. The south side school house was destroyed by fire in the night of August 16, 1880. On the morning of October 14, 1884, occurred the first Walton Brothers fire. The fire started in the large three-story flouring mill owned by them, located across the street south of their nine brick business buildings and in less than an hour these, together with several other store rooms and residences, were a mass of ruins. The Odell checker factory, across the railroad track and south of the mill, also burned to the ground. Walton Brothers did not rebuild on the old site, but commenced business in their store buildings two blocks east. On the afternoon of April 14, 1896, their establishment was wiped out by the flames, involving a net loss of over \$30,000.

During the latter part of the '60s and during

the early 70's, there was a bitter fight between the two "ends" of town—one faction being known as the "east enders," and the other as the "west enders". The dividing line was Second street. The fight raged so fierce that articles were published in the papers, aimed at certain parties, insinuating that several fires which had recently occurred in the village, were not entirely accidental. These articles resulted in suits being brought in the courts for alleged slander, and attempts were made to secure indictments before the grand jury. At a meeting of the citizens held in January, 1872, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That such deeds are a blight upon our city and an infamous stain upon the characters of the perpetrators, instead of upon those who would so defame; that we regard with horror and astonishment the actions of men, prostituting their official position, to carry out personal spite against their fellow citizens at public expense; that we are utterly opposed to such persons, and fully believe such attempt to be the result of vindictive personal feeling, generated by an old feud on the part of their enemies in the hope to shield themselves from damages in certain suits now pending against them in the courts."

After the three fires in the east end in 1868 and 1869, the west end began to build up rapidly, and nearly a solid block of two-story brick business houses was erected on the north side of Livingston square, a block of one-story brick buildings having previously been built on the south side of the square. The depot and post-office had been moved to the west end. The advent of the Chicago and Paducah railroad made the rivalry more intense. The track had been laid to the corporation line, in the west end, the last spike being driven by M. E. Collins, president of the road, on July 15, 1871, after which a jubilee meeting was held in McDowell's hall. It was the intention to locate the depot in the west end, and continue the road on south. Shortly after daybreak on a Sunday morning, several hundred "east enders" made their appearance at the west end and proceeded to lay the track on Walnut street toward the east end, completing the task that evening. Trains were run on the road the following day, and later a round house was built. The rivalry between the two "ends" continued until about 1875, and it was only stopped by the removal from the village and the deaths of the leaders of the two factions. All of the

two-story business buildings in the west end have been torn down, and the business is now done in the central and eastern portions of the town. The past has been forgotten, and is rarely ever referred to. The railroad was afterward extended to Strawn, but was taken up some twenty-five years ago. The township, to its sorrow, had voted \$50,000 toward the construction of the road, although the Fairbury Journal, under date of September 15, 1871, estimated that "\$20,000 per year will be saved to the community by the building and operating of the road."

During the latter part of the '60s, Fairbury was the headquarters in central Illinois of the "Free Thinkers," who differed from the teachings of the Bible. Among the noted men who came here and delivered lectures were Col. R. G. Ingersoll, then a resident of Peoria, and B. F. Underwood of Boston. The great religious debate between Elder O. A. Burgess of Indianapolis and B. F. Underwood was held in a tabernacle erected on the lots where the Scouler business buildings now stand. The debate commenced on the evening of June 17, 1870, and continued through six sessions. The propositions under discussion were: "The Bible contains a supernatural revelation from God to man."—Burgess affirmed, Underwood denied. "The Bible is the work of human origin, and is pernicious in its influence on man."—Underwood affirmed, Burgess denied. These meetings were attended nightly by thousands of people, coming from this and adjoining counties. Shortly afterward, Mr. Ingersoll delivered his celebrated lecture in which his opening paragraph began: "An honest God is the noblest work of man." This lecture was printed in all of the papers in the United States, and it was the one in which he was afterward openly charged as being an infidel. Mr. Ingersoll continued to lecture here about once a month for a year. The "Free Thinkers" erected a two-story double brick building to be used as a hall, and it was dedicated on the evening of January 30, 1871, the orators being Ingersoll and Underwood, both of whom spoke on the life and character of Thomas Paine—the date being the anniversary of his birth. On September 8, Rev. Burgess and other preachers held meetings in a pavilion, and made replies to the remarks made by Ingersoll and Underwood. Upon the removal to other states of the leaders of the Free Thinkers, the society was abandoned and the hall sold at mortgagee's sale in February, 1879, for \$1,500.

Unfortunately, Fairbury has no industries out-

side of two coal mines and cement block factories. The city is located in the midst of an agricultural district. The business houses are all built of brick, and the merchants carry extensive stocks. The business street is paved with brick and sixteen miles of cement walks have been put down in the residence district. One of the finest buildings is the Dominy Memorial Public Library, erected by Mrs. L. B. Dominy, after the death of her husband, at a cost of \$25,000 and dedicated to the city. An opera house, seating 750 people, was erected a few years ago by a stock company at a cost of \$22,000. The first rural route in the county was established in this city. Three of the largest greenhouses in central Illinois are located here. A beautiful park, cared for by public subscriptions, is located in the center of the business district.

The city owns and operates a system of water-works superior to most towns of its size. The supply is from a well 2,000 feet deep. The water is pure, free from lime, and contains many medicinal properties. The water is pumped by compressed air and forced into a standpipe 115 feet high, which is connected with a large reservoir that gives ample supply in case of a large fire. A system of mains over five miles in extent conducts the water to all parts of the city, and it is used very largely for household purposes.

The city owns a fine city hall centrally located at the union of the principal streets. The lower floor is used by the city officers and the fire department, while in the second story is the council chamber and an audience room large enough to accommodate meetings of a public character.

The business portion of the city is lighted by arc lamps, while in the residence districts incandescent lamps are placed at the alternate street intersections, thus distributing the light over the city.

The annual exhibition given under the auspices of the Fairbury Union Agricultural Board is a distinctive feature of the town and is an event eagerly anticipated from year to year. The organization is in a flourishing condition. They have commodious grounds just south of the city limits, one of the fastest half-mile tracks in the state and commodious buildings.

The state of the public schools is a fair index of the city. In this respect, Fairbury is not wanting. The city is provided with two substantial brick buildings. The south side building was erected in 1880 at a cost of \$16,000 and the new \$20,000 high school building on the north side

has been occupied twelve years. The schools have an enrollment of about 600 pupils, and give employment to fifteen teachers.

Fairbury might appropriately be called the "city of churches." The moral and intellectual tone of the town is shown by the large attendance at divine services. Among the denominations represented are the following: Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Catholic, Episcopal, Free Methodist, Christian, African Methodist Episcopal, Amish and Christian Science.

Few cities even of a larger growth have better facilities for work in secret organizations than has Fairbury. The Masonic Temple is the home of the St. Paul Commandery, No. 34, Knights Templar; Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M.; Tarbolton Lodge, No. 351, A. F. and A. M.; and Fairbury Chapter, No. 198, O. E. S. The appointments are elegant in every way. The hall occupies the second story of the building, and consists of a commodious lodge-room, with suitable ante-rooms, reception parlor, banquet hall, together with kitchen, closets and lockers. Equally elegant is the I. O. O. F. Temple. Here meet the Fairbury Encampment, No. 71, I. O. O. F.; Livingston Lodge, No. 290, I. O. O. F., and Charity Home Rebekah Lodge, No. 112. This hall is a model of taste and luxury and is the scene of many social functions. Fairbury Camp, No. 6, M. W. A., Fairbury District Court of Honor, No. 206, and Aaron Weider Post, No. 75, G. A. R., occupy suitable quarters by themselves.

LONG POINT TOWNSHIP.

Long Point is one of the townships on the western tier, being bounded on the north by Reading, on the south by Nebraska, on the east by Amity, and on the west by Woodford County. It derives its name from the long stretch of timber extending from the northeast corner of the township almost to the western limits, and lying on both sides of the creek bearing the same name. Diamond creek flows from the southwest corner and empties into Long Point creek. Prior to 1838, none of the lands in the township had been disposed of. A branch of the Santa Fe road crosses the northwest corner, cutting off five sections. The village of Long Point is located on portions of sections 4, 5 and 9. From a political standpoint, the township is Republican, although

represented for many years by a Democrat on the board of supervisors.

On November 6, 1837, Andrew McDowell entered the first piece of land in Long Point Township, and erected his home the same year. His nearest neighbors were the Moons and Barickmans to the north in Reading Township. He was a native of Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Mr. McDowell was elected county commissioner in 1844 under the old law before the creation of the board of supervisors. In the early settlement of Illinois, he had some thrilling adventures in apprehending and bringing to conviction the horse thieves who infested that portion of the state. There is still standing on the old homestead the first frame building erected in the township. The frame was constructed in Chicago and hauled to his farm, where it was put together. During the early days he was a great hunter, and had an old-fashioned gun which he prized very highly for its accuracy and long range. He also served his township as assessor and collector.

James Argubright claimed to have been the second settler, having located there in 1839, although John Evans said he had located here as early as 1836. Isaac Hodgson alleges he came here in 1836 and remained until 1853, when he sold out to Sammel Silleck. Edwin L. Wheeler, Lorin Pratt, Crawford Eisenhower, David Miller, Lorman Miller, Edward Rhodes, David Rhodes, Orin Rhodes and Benjamin Carlton, helped to swell the community, coming in 1840. Wheeler was a native of New York, Carlton a native of England, the others being from Pennsylvania. The Rhodes brothers left for the west in 1858. O. B. Wheeler and E. C. Allen arrived in 1841. The latter was a member of the board of supervisors for eleven years, chairman of the board for several terms, and collector by appointment. In 1876 he was elected representative from this district by a vote of 7,321. He came here from Ohio on foot and upon his arrival had but \$8 in his pockets. He was clerk of the first election held in the township. Frederick and Edward Carlton moved here in 1842, followed the next year by Ferdinand Werner. Cornelius Zeilman and sons, Aaron and Philo, were among the settlers in 1844. Godfreid Keil arrived in 1847 and E. L. Stratton in 1848. The latter served as supervisor, assessor and collector. Nathan Springer and Samuel Silleck located here in 1849. The latter was instrumental in securing the present route of the Chicago, Pekin and Southwestern railroad (now the Santa Fe) and he individually secured the location of

the station in the village of Long Point, giving the company forty acres, selling other land he owned here for village lots. Absalom Hallam and Thomas Mills became residents in 1850. Mr. Hallam was one of the three commissioners appointed in 1857 to divide the county into townships. He was the first postmaster, having been appointed soon after his arrival, and kept the same in his house a few years. He moved to the village of Long Point in 1874. Mills was elected assessor and town treasurer. Conrad Reed and son William came here in 1853. The following year, Andrew Saemisch and John P. Morgan made their settlement here. The latter had been here in 1835. He was a printer by trade and had worked at the case for Horace Greeley in New York. He was quite prominent in local affairs, and on the organization of the town in 1858 he was elected the first supervisor. He was county judge from 1857 to and including 1858, and was justice of the peace for more than twenty years.

Among others who located here in the '50s were Isaac Ramsey, Stephen Coleman, John Moulds, John Minard, Frederick Girard and sons, Herman and Albert, M. L. Stratton, William Howell, O. M. Alden, Erastus Eaton, William Eaton, Orlando Chubbuck, Harvey Winsor, A. J. Bosserman, John Cooper, John Dykes, A. J. Ewart and sons, Josiah, Joseph and James, A. J. Roberts, Thomas Wray, James Worlds, M. Van Fleet. Among the arrivals in the 60's were John W. Hart, John H. Colehower, J. F. Smith, S. D. Carson, James B. Phillips, Andrew Raub, S. Martine, Leonard Wetz, Theodore Stevenson, James Bradbury.

The first school was taught in 1843 in a log cabin on section 4 by Jane Devine. A few years later, another building was erected near Absalom Hallam's claim. They were also used for religious services.

VILLAGE OF LONG POINT.

Long Point was laid out as a village on February 5, 1873, for Samuel Silleck and Andrew J. McDowell, from parts of sections 4, 5 and 9. The Chicago, Pekin and Southwestern railroad (now the Santa Fe) was completed through the village the year previous. A. J. Bosserman was the first station agent. Grable Brothers conducted the first store, John Hossett conducted the first boarding house, and Peter Bennett built the first dwelling. The village now has about 375 inhabitants. It has two general stores, drug store, hardware store, two meat markets, hotel, black-



H O Danforth
W. Lucia Danforth

smith shop, confectionery store, two barber shops, three grain elevators, and a custom mill. It also has a newspaper—The Long Point Advocate. There is but one brick building in the village, occupied by the Bank of Long Point, of which B. F. Colehower is president. Two churches are located here—Methodist Protestant and Christian. The village also has two school houses. Among the secret and fraternal orders are the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Court of Honor, Royal Neighbors, and Order of the Eastern Star. The residents of the little village are proud of their cornet band.

NEBRASKA TOWNSHIP.

This township possesses some of the finest farming lands in the county. The surface is gently undulating and the soil exceedingly productive. The land was in the grant given to the Illinois Central railroad. The prevailing price which the early settlers had to pay ranged from \$15 to \$20 per acre, according to location. They were required to pay two years' interest at the rate of 6 per cent in advance, the remaining payments to be made each year, in small amounts. Some of them could not meet the payments when due, and as the railroad company did not want to see them leave, in many cases took the land for the improvements made and then immediately resold it to the original settlers for \$6 to \$7 per acre. This second sale in many cases occurred just prior to the Civil War. The township settled up rapidly in the later '50s and in the '60s. At the present time over one-half of the inhabitants are Germans and Irish, all well-to-do. The vote for township organization was had on November 3, 1857. Until 1861, this township was a part of Waldo, and was called Nebraska precinct. In recent years, the township has gone Republican.

This township was not settled until 1855, although a few years before, explorers and others had been over the land and marked the rich prairies as an inviting place for a future home. None of them came here, however, in after years. The first person to make a permanent home here was Isaac Sheets, who arrived from Ohio in 1854 and located on section 35, near the southeast corner of the township. The following spring noted the arrival of Hilliard Van Doren, John W. Simpson, Levi James, Robert Smiley, Reuben Macey, T. N. Camelin, John Emberson, James

Murphy, Adley Brock, Moses Hopwood, Daniel Graft and William Norris, followed the next year by Abel Pearson and Joseph H. Martin. In 1857, John W. Hoover, Joel Doolittle, Albert Snyder, Levi Thompson, B. F. Wood, John Richardson, Nelson Louks, M. Q. Bullard, C. E. Bruce, E. F. John, S. Williams, and Patrick, Peter and Edward Flanagan were among the newcomers. Gilbert Evans, James Smith, Daniel Jolly, Samuel G. Wilcox and S. N. Pillsbury and son, Nathaniel, made their appearance in 1858 and Robert Thompson arrived in 1859. The Flanagan brothers were instrumental in the erection of a Catholic church in 1875 on section 36. In 1880, they laid out and platted the village of Flanagan. John W. Hoover was elected sheriff in 1870. He now resides in Pontiac, and for the vast ten years has been a member of the board of supervisors. Nathaniel J. Pillsbury remained with his father on the farm for a few years, when he removed to Pontiac and studied law and in due time was admitted to the bar. In 1873 he was elected judge of the Thirteenth Judicial circuit, composed of the counties of Livingston, Iroquois and Kankakee. This circuit was consolidated with the circuit composed of McLean and Ford counties in 1877 by the act of the Legislature establishing Appellate Courts for the state. He was appointed by the Supreme Court one of the judges of the Appellate Court, and was reappointed three times. He held the office of circuit judge for several terms. In 1869 he was elected a delegate to the constitutional convention which framed and submitted to the people the present constitution of the state.

In 1859 German Lutherans located in the western side of the township, adjoining the Woodford County line. They erected a school building, and in 1866 built a church. In 1870-71, the Baptists erected a church on the southeast corner of section 7. The Congregational church was organized in 1860. They built a church in 1875 on section 11. The Methodist church was organized in 1869. In 1873 they purchased a school house, remodeled it, and moved it onto section 20. Prior to this time the three latter denominations held religious services in the Nebraska school house. The Catholic church was built in 1875 on section 36. The first school house was erected in 1856 near the home of Samuel Wilcox. Three years later, owing to the rapid influx of settlers, five schools were in operation.

Two post-offices were established in the '70s. One was on section 10, in a store kept by Thomas Seymour and was called Zookville; the other

one was on section 19, in a store kept by Henry Schmidt, and was called Windtown, from the fact that George Sauer had erected a windmill on his farm several years previous. This mill ground the grist of the farmers in the neighborhood until 1872, when it was removed to Gridley.

The Salem Orphanage is located three miles south of the village of Flanagan on a farm donated to the Salem Orphanage Association by David R. King. Mr. King was an invalid for about twenty-five years before his death, and his wife having died a few years previous, leaving no children, Mr. King deeded the land to the association provided they would keep him until his death, which they did. The first board of directors were N. B. Stuckey, D. N. Claudon, Joseph Ulrich, John Slagle, B. K. Slagle and Andrew Roth. The first building to carry on the work proposed was erected in 1888. It was two stories high with a basement, the dimensions being 29x40 feet, containing eleven rooms, most of the work of construction being performed by members of the Mennonite church. After the building was completed, it remained idle for over a year, the board seeking to find a superintendent to carry on the great work outlined by the association who would devote his life to the cause. After a diligent search for such a person, Benjamin Rupp was given the position of superintendent and his good wife was made matron. Mr. Rupp and wife are from Fulton County, Ohio, where Mr. Rupp was engaged in farming. He was also a minister in the Mennonite church, and his selection has proved that no better man could be found for the great work to be accomplished. Three years after Mr. Rupp assumed charge, the building was found to be too small and an addition, 55x60 feet, was erected by the association at a cost of nearly \$10,000, and like the first building, the work of construction was for the most part performed by members of the Mennonite church. Joseph Mosiman of East Peoria, Ill., donated \$3,000 toward the erection of this building. A school building, 29x40 feet, has also been erected, as well as a barn and suitable sheds for the live stock, the whole being made perfectly sanitary throughout. On the 12th of March, 1907, Henry H. Broad of Waldo Township, died in Florida, where he went in search of health. Mr. Broad was a widower with no children, and left part of his estate, consisting of 160 acres of good land in Waldo Township and some personal property, to the Salem Orphanage. The estate is now being administered upon and the association will soon

come into possession of property valued at over \$32,000.

The Orphanage is conducted by a branch of the Amish sect, known as the Defenceless Mennonites, who are, without doubt, the best citizens of the county. They are broad in their views, take an interest in the affairs of the community in which they live, and are generous to a fault. Neither the perils of the night nor dangers of the elements ever deter them from visiting the bedside of the sick and sorrowing neighbor, no matter what his faith may be. The writer has met many estimable people in civil life during his travels over the United States, but for all that goes to make up that which we esteem most in manhood and womanhood, we have never met the superior of these people—the Defenceless Mennonites. From the day the Salem Orphanage first started down to the present time, no person was ever solicited for funds to carry on the work. The motto of the association—"In God We Trust"—is carried out to the letter, and not one cent of indebtedness has ever been incurred in carrying on the Orphanage. It was the original intention of the organizers of the association to care for only the orphans of members belonging to the Mennonite church, but this was abandoned, and all creeds are now admitted. The management of the Home is delegated to the president and the board of directors, who are entitled to select workers for the home, and to dismiss those who are not fully consecrated to the work, or such as are not fitted or not needed.

Orphans, half orphans, and other worthy destitute lawfully begotten children are accepted into the Home, and receive industrial and religious training, and a common school education; or homes found for them where they may receive such training and education. Both sexes are admitted between the ages of about one and ten years. Destitute orphan children are accepted free of charge and fare paid. For other destitute children who are sent for only a limited time, railroad fare must be paid. But in cases of extreme poverty, by writing to the president or superintendent of the home, the matter will be investigated. Neither the president nor the board of directors shall have any right, at any time, or under any circumstances, to incur debt against the association, or to go any farther than the funds will reach. The officers fulfill the duties pertaining to their office without compensation, and all the workers in the Home do their work gratuitously. The association obligates itself to

supply the workers of the Home with all the necessities of life; to pay all their railroad fare and expenses for such trips as are made for the interest of the Home, or for recovery. Also give them a home, and faithfully care for them in case of sickness or old age. Workers are also authorized to receive free gifts, such as are specified for them by the donors. No demand, or call for aid, shall be made to assist in the work; only through free-will offerings, by faith and trust in God, the work shall be begun and carried on. Any endowment, bequest or donation to this association, for any specific purpose, in accordance with charter, shall be used for the purpose specified by the donor.

Since the Home was opened in 1890, many orphans have been supplied with homes. The children are given a common school education, the same text books being used as in the public schools of the county. But three deaths have occurred at the Orphanage in the eighteen years that it has been open to the public. All are obliged to work who are able. A manual training school will soon be started in connection with the institution. The only punishment inflicted for an infraction of the rules is that of sending the child to bed, not, however, without food. Love and sympathy are the modes used with the children, and if this does not bring forth results, the refractory one is provided with a good home away from the Orphanage. At the present time there are seventy-one children at the Orphanage, making a total of eight-five persons, including the superintendent, his family, the teachers and nurse. An elegant hospital is also provided.

The present managers are Benjamin Rupp and wife, superintendent and matron; N. B. Stucky, John Slagle, B. K. Slagle, Samuel Ehrsmann of Flanagan; Andrew Roth, Groveland, Ill.; John Rupp, Pettisville, Ohio; John Slatter, Gabel, Ind.; Joseph Pantz, Sterling, Kan.; Peter Ehrsmann, Gridley, Ill.

VILLAGE OF FLANAGAN.

The village of Flanagan was laid out and platted in 1880 by the Flanagan brothers—Patrick, Edward and Peter—and it was named after them. The village is located on a branch of the Illinois Central railroad. The owners of the townsite paid the railroad company a certain sum with an agreement that no other town should be laid out within five miles on either side. The first store building was erected in a cornfield in 1880, by James Gilman, who carried a small stock of

goods, and was shortly afterward appointed postmaster. The early merchants were George Walton, Murphy Brothers, William Main, Henry Locker, Flanagan Brothers, J. H. Linneman and C. C. Studley. The first hotel was erected by Frederick Mette, the first lumber yard carried on by W. A. Renn, the first bank by E. Litchfield & Co., and the first elevator built by Frederick Greiner. At the present time all branches of business are well represented. There are four churches in the village—Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist and Christian—all wooden structures, and parsonages for the ministers. With the exception of five brick buildings, the stores in the business district are wooden structures. The school house is two stories high, built of brick. There is a fine artesian well, 167 feet deep, in the center of the village, and four others in the residence district. A tower is located near the village well, as is also the town hall. There is one weekly newspaper, the Home Times. The fraternal orders are represented by the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Court of Honor and Royal Neighbors. At the present time there are two elevators here, but the farmers have recently organized for the purpose of carrying on the grain business. Three additions have been laid out to the original townsite.

VILLAGE OF SPIRES.

Spires is located five miles west of Flanagan on the Illinois Central road. It has a general store, an elevator and a post-office.

NEVADA TOWNSHIP.

This township is described as Township 30, Range 6. It is bounded on the north by Grundy County, on the east by Dwight Township, on the south by Esmen, and on the west by Sunbury. The Three I railroad and a branch of the Alton, from Dwight to Streator, passes through the northern part. The west fork of the Mazon creek passes through the eastern portion of the township. There was formerly a small grove on section 1, but much of the timber has been cut down. This township was organized in 1858. Previous to that time Nevada, Dwight and Round Grove were known as Dwight precinct. A large portion of the present inhabitants are Irish. It is the banner Democratic township in the county. It was given its name by Stephen Kyle.

The first school in the neighborhood was over in Grundy County. In 1855 the Thompson school was erected. At that time there were but 32 persons under 21 years of age. But 21 votes were cast at the first county election in 1858. Among those who enlisted as soldiers in the Civil War, who were either killed or died, were Stephen Kyle, Frank Angle, Frank Kimberg, John Kyler, Orson Spencer, Charles Spencer, Henry Collister, John Collister.

James Funk was the first permanent settler of which we have any record. He located in 1847 in the extreme northwest corner on section 1. He remained until 1852, disposing of his claim to Andrew Cottrell. J. M. Reeder purchased Cottrell's claim in 1848. In the meantime, both Funk and Cottrell had moved to what is known as Five Mile Grove, in Saunemin Township. Reeder remained on the place until 1866, when he moved with his family to Marion County. Jason Tuttle, native of New York state, staked out his claim in 1851. A few years later, he became neighbors of Funk and Cottrell, in Saunemin Township. William Kirkendall came from Indiana in 1852. Stephen Kyle and Thomas C. McDowell became settlers in 1853. The former was from Ohio and the latter from Pennsylvania. Kyle was the first supervisor. When the township was named, he gave it the one it now bears. On the breaking out of the rebellion, he enlisted as a soldier in Co. C, 129th Infantry, was elected second lieutenant, and died three months after he entered the service. In 1854 the settlement was increased by the arrival of A. B. Dunlop, Hosea Spencer, Robert Thompson and George Bishop. Dunlop was from Pennsylvania, Thompson from Ohio, and Spencer and Bishop from New York state. Thompson was the first justice of the peace—the township of Nevada, Dwight and Round Grove up to 1857 being known as Dwight precinct—the first summons issued by him being for a man in Round Grove. He was elected supervisor in 1860, 1862, and from 1864 to 1871 inclusive. He afterward moved to Dwight. He was of the three commissioners to lay out this county into townships in 1857. Bishop was a lawyer, and removed to Pontiac, where he engaged in his profession. Among those who settled in the 50's were Bernhard Ruddy, Thomas G. Lyons, John Carlisle, Thomas Liggitt, Cyrus G. Barr, James Martin, Thomas Magee, Stephen Morrison, James C. George, James Henry, Jacob Angle, L. E. Ross, R. B. Strong, R. C. Adams,

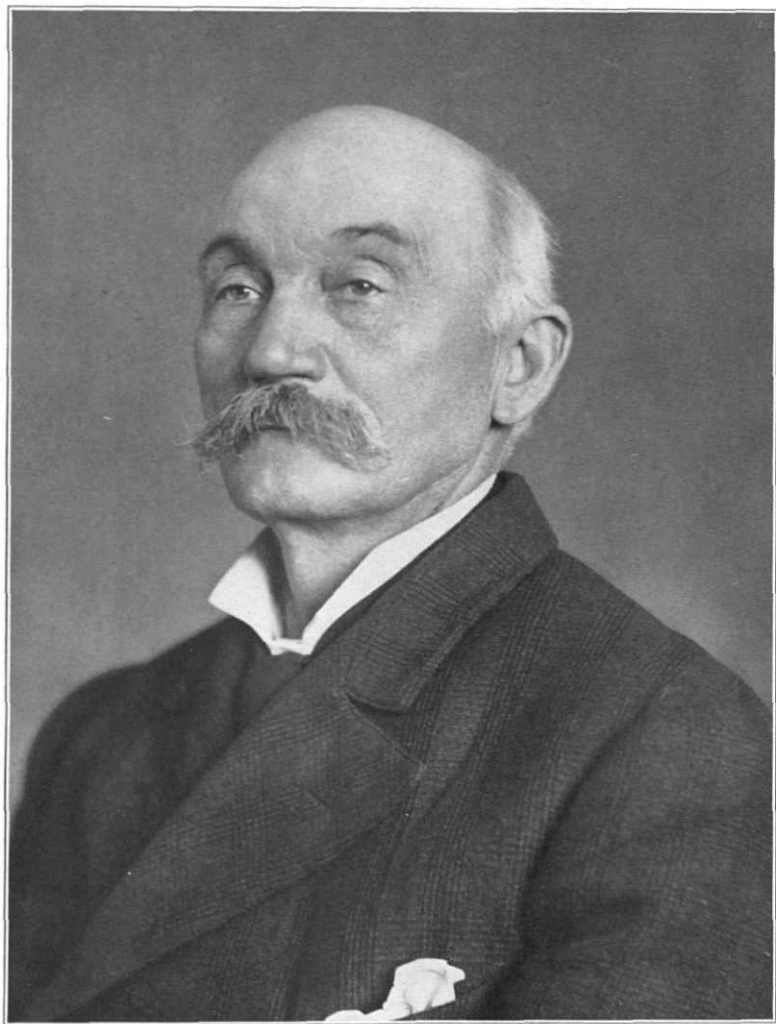
Predule Gutel, E. B. Coleman. Among those who entered the township during the 60's were Richard Piper, Bernhard Lyons, B. B. Dow, S. A. Finch, John R. Martin, B. Grennan, John B. Evvard, James Brown, E. D. Brown, Amason Eastman, Philip Gibbons, Peter Hanson, T. S. Ingraham, John McGee, William Whitaker, John Carlton, E. B. Coleman, Ira W. Hand, J. D. Lambert, H. B. Southwick, Henry L. Badger, Thomas Dougherty, Patrick Moran, W. W. Wassom, Owen Feehan, John McGreevy, John McConnell, Peter Veltz, Samuel Sterns.

VILLAGE OF NEVADA.

The village is located on a branch of the Chicago and Alton road, midway between Dwight and Blackstone. It has about 75 inhabitants. There is a general store, post-office, blacksmith shop, and two grain elevators. A Methodist church is also located here. The village was laid out and platted for William Shepherd on February 10, 1870. The first house in the village was built that year by E. D. Brown, who opened a store and purchased grain. Michael Bridell and John Simpson followed a few weeks later. Bridell engaged in the mercantile business and Simpson became the village blacksmith. In 1872, H. F. Burr opened a hardware store. Thomas Brady embarked in the dry goods and grocery business in 1873, but did not make a success of his venture. J. A. Cavanaugh engaged in the grain and stock business. E. D. Brown was the first postmaster.

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP.

Newtown Township consists of a little less than a full congressional town, the west line being the Vermillion river, which cuts off all of sections 30 and 31 and parts of sections 7, 18, and 19, Township 30, Range 4, and throwing this territory into Reading Township. The river, however, flows through the northeast corner of section 30, and these add about two sections of that township to Newtown, thus making the township consist of about thirty-four full sections. About one-sixth of the township is covered by timber. Considerable mining has been done in years past in the northeast corner. The township was organized April 6, 1858. This part of the county had in 1853, been set off as a voting precinct, and was called the New Mich-



J. M. Treher

gan precinct. Eben Norton was the first supervisor. The first settlers arrived here just prior to the organization of the county. It is noted for three things—the first church building was erected in this township, the first “high school” was organized here, and it was thickly populated with Abolitionists. We are unable to give the early settlers in their order, but from information at hand, we write concerning them as follows:

Emsley Pope is accredited with being the first settler in the township. He was born in Guilford County, North Carolina, in the year 1797, and removed with his father to Champaign County, Ohio, in 1810. His father enlisted in the war of 1812, but was prevented from serving by sickness. Young Pope, then but 15 years of age, begged permission to go as his father's substitute, which was given and he shouldered his musket and served during the war. When peace was restored, he resided with his father until 1836, when he came to this state and located upon the identical spot where he lived and died. The old double log cabin, erected soon after his arrival, served as a shelter for himself and family until after the '80s. Pope was intimately acquainted with Shabbona, the Pottawatomie chief, for he frequently pitched his tent near Pope's cabin, on his hunting trips along the banks of the Vermilion river. On one of these occasions, Shabbona and the twelve Indians who accompanied him, killed fifty deer within a circuit of three miles, taking Pope's cabin as a center. Edwin Houchin arrived in the fall of the same year, as did also Charles Paget. Houchin came from Logan County, this state, where he had lived for five years. Paget was a native of Kentucky, but spent his boyhood days in Brown County. He was a pronounced Abolitionist, and made assaults on the institution of slavery in every place and under all circumstances. Samuel Broomfield arrived the following year from Ottawa. He was peculiar in some respects, especially in his notions on the subject of religion. Moses Rummery arrived about the same time. He was a strong Abolitionist before the war. He voted for Lincoln for the second term, but did not vote for him for the first term because he did not think his Abolition sentiments were strong enough. Before the war, he aided many a slave to freedom. It is said that on one occasion three slaves came to his home very early in the morning, having been brought from Pontiac to Mud Creek the night before, and were anxious

to make their way to Canada as fast as possible. He hitched up his team and took them to Ottawa by daylight that day. Money was raised there and they went on to Chicago, where they were decoyed by officers into a store, arrested and taken to St. Louis and returned again to slavery. He was president of the Anti-Slavery society in this county during 1858-59. Edward Phillips and son Jacob arrived in the spring of 1837, and located on the creek but a few feet from where his son now resides. The elder Phillips was a native of Maryland, and after his marriage removed from there to Ohio with a two-wheeled cart, taking his family with him, which consisted of his wife and four children. His wife died later. When he landed in this state he had \$50 in silver half-dollars. The first piece of land that he entered was on section 7, and consisted of 80 acres. The land office was then located at Danville, and a man named Templin went there on foot, wearing a handkerchief on his head and carrying his provisions with him, performed the errand. Mr. Phillips died in 1847. His son Jacob still lives in the township and is the oldest continuous resident, having lived here for seventy-one years. In his younger days he was quite prominent in township affairs, officiating as supervisor four years. He was a Whig, but in recent years has given his support to the Republican party. He is the largest land owner in the township. A cemetery is located near the old Phillips' homestead and many of the early settlers are buried there. Robert Copse and Amos, Henry and Samuel Lundy located here in 1838. The latter was blind, caused by sickness when eight years of age, and for many years he made baskets and brooms. Robert Copse died December 10, 1853, at the age of 100 years, 6 months and 10 days. Those who settled here during the 40's were George Dixon, Charles Dixon, Joseph Pope, Levi Clay, Orin Goddard, Edmond Leonard, John Snyder, Zephaniah Schwartz, William Bowman, Robert Jefferson, James and Mally Brown, Charles Harvey, Samuel Thompson, Russell Nelson, George Sardinia, Xenophon Richards, M. A. Smith and John Smith. The village of Smithdale was named after the latter. Richards settled in the vicinity of the site of New Michigan, which he named after his native state. Among those who came here in the 50's were Thomas Holland, William Zeigler, Jacob Zeigler, John Mortland, Stephen Hinds, Cyrus Cusick, Otis Whaley, Flavius Manly, Chester R. Manly, H. H. Hinman, James Calder, M. H.

Gilman, Rev. John Hoobler and sons, Andrew and William, John D. Hoobler, David Hoobler, Charles Decker, Eben Norton, Otho Pearre, Otho F. Pearre, Alexander Savage, James Gibson, Thomas Gibson, James, George and William Applegate, Joshua and David McIntosh, M. A. Newman, Walter C. Allen, W. B. Fyfe, Jacob Kuhns, Walker Dice, E. B. Neville. Fyfe was a staunch Abolitionist. In the early days of the anti-slavery movement, he was associated with Owen Lovejoy, Ichabod Coddling, James H. Collins, Otis Richardson, Chauncey Cook, John Hosack and Rev. H. H. Hinman, and while in Ottawa he kept one of the depots of the underground railroad. He engaged in merchandising here in 1856, continued for two years and then went to farming. He moved to Pontiac in 1862 and studied law. After the war he was appointed deputy county treasurer and in 1867 was elected county treasurer. He was also swamp land commissioner. Hinman was elected county school commissioner in 1853 and re-elected in 1855. David McIntosh was elected a member of the legislature in 1874. Rev. John Hoobler was elected a representative to the Legislature on the Whig ticket and served one term. He was one of the pioneer United Brethren circuit riders and rode over the entire state in an early day. He established the church of that denomination in this township and spent most of his means in founding churches throughout Illinois, being practically the father of them all. His sons later engaged in business at Manville. James Gibson was a candidate for county treasurer in 1857, but was defeated by J. R. Woolverton of Reading Township. The town of New Michigan was laid out November 7, 1850, by Martin A. Newman. He conducted a store there for three years, then removed to Ottawa, returning in 1859 when he moved onto his farm. He made a tour of this county in 1847, when there was not a store of any kind within its borders. He returned to his home in Ottawa and fitted up a peddling wagon, and visited every family in the county about five times a year. In exchange for goods, he took deer or mink skins. He purchased of John and Theodore Popejoy of Avoca Township the skins of fifty-four deer, killed during the winter of 1846. He was the first route agent, traveling on horseback from Ottawa and Bloomington, by way of Pontiac and Lexington, and made the trip in two weeks. In 1854, a survey was made through the village for the Air-line railroad, and other parties soon engaged in business. Some grading

was done, and that was the end of the railroad. However, the little village continued to flourish for a few years afterward. David Hoobler and David Gouty were among the merchants. In 1856 the New Michigan Academy was erected and a corps of teachers selected, with E. B. Neville as principal. The books used were McGuffey's reader, Ray's geography and algebra, Mitchell's grammar, Parker's composition, Goodrich's United States history, Cutter's physiology, Anthon's Latin grammar, Cornelius Nepos and Caesar's Commentaries on the Gallic Wars. The tuition was from \$4 to \$7.50 per term, payable half yearly in advance. Boarding, including room rent and fuel, was \$2 per week. The academy was kept open for one year, and then two years the building was idle. In the fall of 1859, O. F. Pearre was employed, and he was principal for three years. He then moved to Dwight, where he accepted the principalship of the schools, and later the academy was abandoned. The first county teachers' institute was organized at the academy on January 8, 1858. When coal was discovered at Streator, then known only as "Hardscrabble," the village ceased to exist.

The first church building erected in the county was the one known as "Old Bethel". It was built in 1848 through the efforts of Amos Lundy, Ewin Houchin and Henry Lundy. It was 30x40, with an eight-foot ceiling, built mostly of hardwood lumber, cut from the timber. It was purchased and used afterward by the United Brethren. For nine years it was the only church in the county. The United Brethren now have a new edifice. A paper was published here in 1853 by Rev. Thomas Cotton, called the Vermillion Herald. It lasted but one issue. The first school was built by Xenophon Richards and Russell Nelson. In 1855 there were four schools, with an enrollment of 171 pupils. The teachers were paid \$33.33 1-3 per month. There are two cemeteries in the township—Hoobler and Phillips.

A sad accident occurred here on September 13, 1877, in which three young men—Isaac Rumery, Clark Cusick and James Scovelle—met their death. These men were employed to clean out an old well on the farm of Cyrus Cusick. The well was about thirty-five feet deep. Rumery was the first to descend by means of a rope, when within ten feet of the bottom he let go and fell. Cusick hastened to his relief and he also fell to the bottom. Scovelle fell before he had proceeded ten feet. Their death was due to foul



Mary. F. Felzer

gas. It was three hours before their bodies were brought to the surface.

VILLAGE OF MANVILLE.

This village has had a hard time of it in the selection of a name. After the Chicago & Paducah road, now the Wabash, was completed in 1871, M. E. Collins on August 7th laid out from the southeast quarter of section 21 the townsite, and named it Collins, and built the first store building. On October 18 of the same year, David Hoobler and Jacob Kuhns platted eleven acres from the same section and named it Newtown. Chester R. Manley built the first dwelling in the village, and was the first station agent. The name of the village is now Manville. M. A. Newman moved his dwelling from the farm and David Hoobler and David Gouty moved a store room from New Michigan the same fall. An elevator was built by Hossack Brothers, of Odell. At the present time there is a general store, post-office, blacksmith shop, and a few residences in the village. The Methodist church is located here.

VILLAGE OF SMITHDALE.

This village is on the branch of the Chicago and Alton road. It was laid out in 1870 by William Shepherd and consists of thirty-two acres from section 8. Rev. Zenas R. Jones is postmaster, station agent and grain dealer. The town was named after John Smith, who settled in the township in an early day.

VILLAGE OF VERMILION CITY.

This village is on the Santa Fe road, about a mile southwest of Streator. The town consists of miners who are employed in the various coal mines near by. Most of them are of foreign birth. The place consists of fifty-one acres, the right of mining all coal beneath the land being reserved. The Streator Clay Manufacturing Company's plant and the Streator Aqueduct plant are located here.

VILLAGE OF MISSAL.

Located on the Three I road. Has an elevator, general store and post-office.

ODELL TOWNSHIP.

Odell Township is described as Town 29 No., Range 6 E. The township is destitute of natural timber, and with the exception of Deer creek,

which flows through the southwestern portion, it has no streams. As soon as it became known that the Chicago and Alton railroad was to pass through the township, speculators entered nearly all of the land, not with a view to improvement, but for a rise in the market which was sure to follow the completion of the railroad. February 2, 1864, Union Township, adjoining Odell on the east, was separated from this township. The farming community is thickly settled with Irish and Germans, all of whom are prosperous. The township is placed in the Republican column, although in local elections, Democrats are elected to office.

It was not until after July 4, 1854, the date upon which the Chicago and Alton railroad was finished through this county, that there were any settlers in this township—in fact, we might say there were none until the village of Odell sprang into existence. Just who were the first permanent settlers outside of the village, we are unable to determine, but Thomas Hamlin and sons, Hial and Thomas, arrived in 1855 followed soon thereafter by E. O. Chapman, C. U. Udell, W. J. Murphy, George Skinner, Patrick McAllister, Augustus Coleman, Edward G. Putnam, Charles McCloud, Joseph French, Hiram Vanderlip, Samuel and Charles Packwood, Eli Pearson, Hanford Kerr, Moses Pearson, J. H. Coe, F. J. Church. All of the above located on the open prairie, some near Odell, others in the vicinity of Cayuga, coming here prior to 1860. Among those who settled in the '60s were Michael Cleary, William Strawn, C. W. Barber, T. S. Pound, George C. Nettleton, L. Morse, John W. Marsh, Joseph H. Moore, George Ferguson, L. L. Green, Jeremiah Clay, Philetus A. Leonard, Theodore McCormick, Abraham Imrie, J. K. Howard, John Halliday, William Allen, B. F. Leonard. Mr. Cleary was elected supervisor in 1874 and has been re-elected to the office ever since. He is the oldest continuous member of that body. William Strawn served two terms in the State Legislature, being elected in 1866 and 1868.

VILLAGE OF ODELL.

The land upon which the town of Odell now stands was entered from the Government May 4, 1853, by James C. Spencer and Henry A. Gardner, although not surveyed and platted until August 10, 1856. Spencer afterward sold his share to William H. Odell, who was honored with the name of the town. Mr. Odell, in turn, sold his interest to S. S. Morgan. The latter after-

ward purchased 2,100 acres of land which he began improving. He directed his energies to building public roads centering in Odell, and the village owes much of its prosperity to his public spirit and enterprise. In due course of time he was elected supervisor, road commissioner and school director. The first station agent was Daniel Smith, and when the post-office was established was appointed postmaster. J. H. Link was the second agent and S. S. Morgan the second postmaster. The first store in the village was established by S. W. Curtiss, in the warehouse that had been erected by the railroad company. Curtiss lived in Kendall County, and the store was in charge of Peter Lundgren. J. P. Des Voignes was the third settler in the village. Curtiss took into partnership Oscar Dewey, and they erected a building. The firm continued in business until 1858, when Lundgren opened a store of his own. The first dwelling was erected by S. S. Morgan for Thomas Lyon, who was in charge of the railroad pumping station, and who had been making his home in a box-car. Joseph Baldwin opened the first boarding house and A. A. Streeter the first hotel. J. McMeans was the first blacksmith, but remained but a short time and was succeeded by Charles Finefield. The first carload of grain was shipped by James Henry in 1855. It was loaded from the wagons directly into the cars. The first elevator was erected by L. E. Kent of Pontiac in 1861, and Albert Aeri was placed in charge. J. B. Curtiss built another elevator about the same time. In 1866, J. & W. Hossack erected an elevator, 60x90 feet, at a cost of \$23,000. The first school was taught in the home of Joseph French in the winter of 1857 by Mrs. M. H. Robinson. But seven pupils were in attendance. Seymour & Nichols were the first resident carpenters. In their shop were held the first religious services, the people all worshipping together. Rev. I. T. Whittemore was the pastor. The first school house was built in 1858, and services were then held in this building. Rev. Whittemore continued as minister until 1862, when the Congregational society was organized and a church, 38x60 feet, built by them in 1866 at a cost of \$8,000. The Methodist church was organized in 1860 by Rev. Thomas Cotton. In 1867 they erected a church, 36x56 feet, at a cost of \$6,000. The Catholic church was erected in 1857 at a cost of \$5,300. In 1883, a two-story brick school building, containing six rooms, was erected at a cost of \$10,000. Owing to faulty construction, this building was torn down, and a

modern building was built several years ago. The Methodist and Catholic denominations have in recent years erected fine edifices. The St. Paul's school is a large and handsome structure, built in 1895 at a cost of \$7,500. The building is of brick, contains three rooms, each 20x25 feet, a large drill room, in addition to the dining room, kitchen and dormitories. The church is in charge of the Sisters of Notre Dame. In addition to the ordinary studies are taught music, church history and catechism.

Among those who were engaged in business during the '60s we recall John McWilliams, lumber and general dry goods; Morell Southwick, lumber; P. W. Kenyon, lumber; F. Balenseifer, general merchandise; Alfred Des Voignes, harness maker; S. Hunt, books and stationery; Charles Hungerford, cigar manufacturer; Kenyon & Gallaher, grocers; J. D. Pound, real estate; S. H. Penny, general merchandise, afterward establishing the Odell Exchange Bank; Raymond Premersdorfer, boots and shoes; E. M. Vaughan, druggist; N. E. Wright, hardware business; Thomas A. Daniels, wagon maker. Among the attorneys were James H. Funk and A. P. Wright.

The first election under township organization was held in 1858, being held at the store of Curtiss & Dewey. Twenty-five votes were cast. At this time Union Township was a part of this Odell Township. S. S. Morgan was elected supervisor. At this meeting \$600 was appropriated for the purpose of building roads, and during that year petitions were granted for the laying out of thirty-eight miles of new road.

The village was organized February 8, 1867, by the election of the following board of trustees: President, John McWilliams; clerk, B. F. Washburn; treasurer, S. H. Putnam; members, John Hossack, T. O. Bannister, S. S. Morgan and Jason Curtiss; A. S. Putnam was appointed constable. In 1869 the village came under the Princeton charter, which prohibited the town board from granting license to sell intoxicants, and which continued in force until 1872, when it was reorganized under the general law.

Odell has more cement sidewalks than any town of its size in the county. A supply of excellent water comes from the town well, 1,274 feet deep, with the water rising within 120 feet of the surface. It has a good system of waterworks, with a pumping station and tower, with tank 120 feet to the top. The village has first-class business houses, reliable bank, hotel, public

library and a weekly newspaper. It is essentially an agricultural town, as is indicated from the fact that more grain is shipped from this station than from any other in the county, nearly 2,000,000 bushels of grain being handled yearly. The secret and benevolent organizations are represented by the Masons, Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, Independent Order of Mutual Aid, Court of Honor, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Foresters. The electric road from Pontiac to Dwight passes through the village. A destructive cyclone passed through the village on May 14, 1886, an extended notice of which is given elsewhere.

Odell Township has been honored by having five of its citizens to represent this district in the State Legislature: Michael Cleary (Democrat), four terms; A. G. Goodspeed (Republican), three terms; Bailey A. Gower (Republican), two terms; Leander L. Green (Democrat), one term; William Strawn (Republican), one term. James H. Funk was elected state's attorney in 1873, B. F. Hotchkiss surveyor in 1875, M. Tombaugh county superintendent of schools in 1877, James A. Hunter sheriff in 1878.

VILLAGE OF CAYUGA.

The village was surveyed and platted from section 31, on April 10, 1855. Although this was over half a century ago, it has not grown in population to any great extent since then. C. N. Coe was the first station agent, being appointed in 1856. He also bought grain during the same year. David J. Evans opened the first store in 1857, and a year later was succeeded by John Pickering. David Hunt erected an elevator in 1862 and L. E. Kent another one in 1868. John W. Marsh engaged in the boot and shoe business in 1866, and in 1867 Dr. Peter Eggler opened a drug store and practiced medicine. E. O. Chapman was appointed station agent in 1872, and from that year until 1886 he was postmaster. He was a carpenter by trade, and during the early '50s built nearly all the houses in and around Cayuga. One of the early ministers was Dr. B. J. Bettleheim, who came here in 1856. The village today has a general store, three elevators, public school, and two churches—Presbyterian and Lutheran. .

OWEGO TOWNSHIP.

This township is in the geographical center of the county, and is known as Township 28, Range

6. The Vermilion river flows through the southwest corner of section 31. The township is destitute of natural timber. The Felkey slough runs through the eastern part. In an early day this creek, although not wide, was a treacherous one to cross by wagon. The first settlers made their homes near the river.

Daniel Rockwood was the first person to locate permanently. He arrived in 1833 from Tioga County, New York. He was one of the first three county commissioners elected in 1837, the same year the county seat was located at Pontiac. Two years later, he offered a fifty-acre tract provided the seat of justice would be located on his land. A vote was taken on August 30, and the scheme was defeated by a vote of 80 to 56. He held the office of supervisor during 1858-60.

James L. Stinson and brothers, Alexander and Thomas, arrived in 1839. James died in 1847. His brothers remained here but a few years, Alexander removing to McLean County and James going to Kansas. The DeMoss family came in 1840.

In 1842 Henry Jones came to Owego from Indiana, and after a short stop in the DeMoss settlement and in Pontiac Township, continued his journey to Iowa, then a territory. After living there five years, he returned to Livingston County in 1847 and located on section 31, in the southwest corner of Owego Township. In 1848 Jones built the first bridge that was erected over the Vermilion river (in Pontiac), where the Mill street bridge now stands. In 1849, in company with James Blake and George B. Foster, he went to California, returning to Pontiac in 1851. In 1852 Jones again went to California, conducting a party of gold-seekers across the plains. In 1855 he returned to Pontiac and built the first brick building erected in Pontiac, now occupied by John Bradford, shipping the brick from Bloomington. In 1856 he was elected county judge and in 1858 resigned to pilot a company of sixteen men to Pike's Peak, and on through to California, where he remained until his death in 1893.

Among those who settled here in 1851 were William Rollins, Rudolph Patty, William Wilson, Elijah Justus, Samuel Wentz and Louis Mixer. Rollins was murdered on April 1, 1872, as noted elsewhere. Lewis Bright, John Whitman and Jacob Bragoo settled the following year. Richard Evans and Orlin Converse made their appearance in 1855. Evans was the first assessor. Converse came here from Vermont. He was

supervisor two terms and school director of District 9 for thirty consecutive years. He died in Pontiac in 1896. The following year several families moved into the township, among them being N. S. Grandy, John M. Wince, Amos C. Handley, William Harris, Thomas Holman, Ansel Hayes, Robert Smith, George Barr, John W. Benham, William Algae, Samuel Algae, James Algae. Mr. Grandy held the office of supervisor during the years 1861 and 1862, and served as assessor and justice of the peace. He was a candidate for county judge in 1861, but was defeated by Jonathan Duff. In 1868 he was appointed county commissioner by the board of supervisors to go over the county and re-appraise the swamp lands. He moved to Pontiac Township in 1872. He died June 20, 1890, being blind the last two years of his life. Benham, the year before he arrived, went with a party to Kansas to survey the boundary line between that state and Nebraska. He served two terms as a member of the board of supervisors and twelve years as commissioner of highways. Smith was supervisor from 1864 to 1866. Edwin V. Jones, Henry Hill, John Scott and George Van Saun arrived in 1857. George Berry and Nicholas Zeph came the following year, the former settling on section 13. He afterward conducted a grain elevator at Rugby. He died in March, 1883. Zeph located on section 18. He died September 22, 1871. Alexander Algae and George W. Ferris located in 1859. Algae settled on section 15. Ferris engaged in teaching the first two years and in 1861 settled on a farm. In 1882 he was elected county superintendent of schools and re-elected in 1886. He died in California.

The first school house was erected in 1840 near the Rockwood farm. The attendance was limited to about a dozen pupils, and was maintained by private subscriptions. No public school buildings were erected until 1857, in which year three were built. Two of these were union school houses, on the line between Owego and Avoca Townships, and the other was located near the Foster farm.

There are two churches in the township—Baptist and Methodist. The former is located in the village of Swygert, the latter near the center of the township. The Methodist church was dedicated September 1, 1881. Previous to that time the members held services at the Mortimore school house.

VILLAGE OF RUGBY.

Rugby is located on the Illinois Central road, in Owego Township, eight miles east of Pontiac. It has but one store, and a grain elevator.

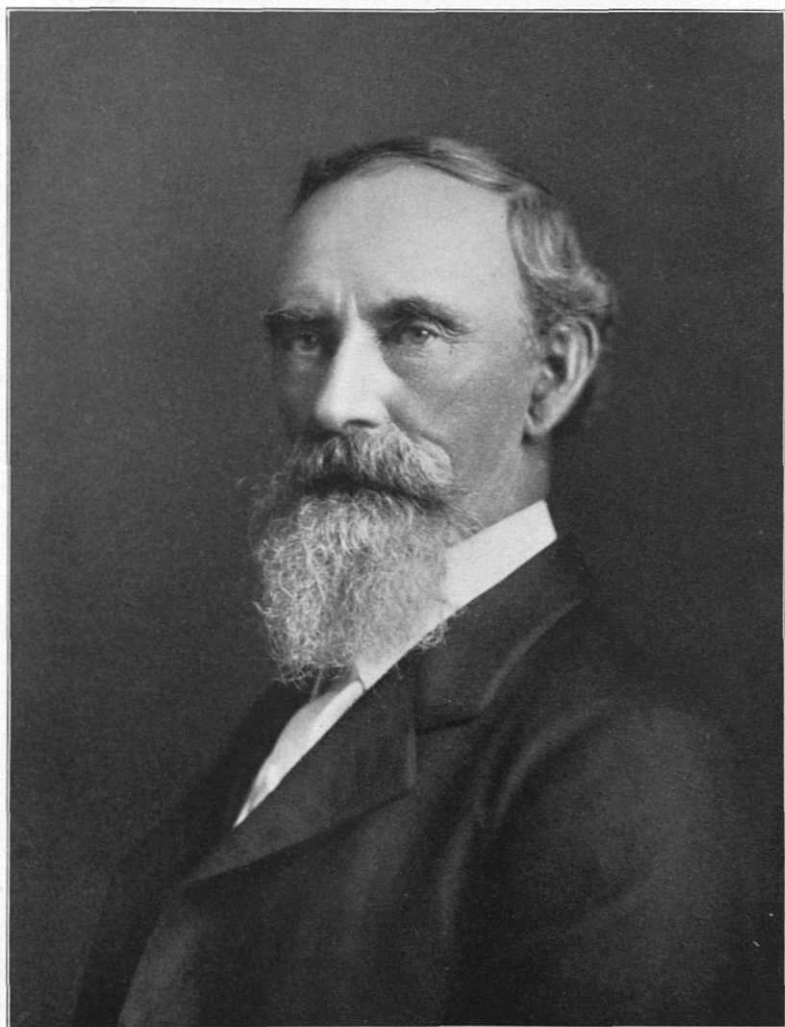
VILLAGE OF SWYGERT.

Swygert is located on the Illinois Central road, in Owego Township, five miles east of Pontiac. Besides a general store, it has a grain elevator. The Owego Baptist church is located here.

PIKE TOWNSHIP.

December 10, 1857, the county commissioners appointed Jonathan Darnall, Robert Thompson and Absalom Hallam as commissioners to lay out this county into townships, according to township organization. The commissioners first laid out twenty townships, but in the spring of 1858 they divided the township of Rooks Creek and named the latter half Pike. That is the reason Pike appears on the map, and is known as Town 28, Range 3. The township is in the original grant of land given to the Illinois Central railroad, and is known as railroad land. Prior to settlement, there were many large swamps or sloughs on nearly every section, but these have long since been drained, and the township now ranks among one of the best in the county from an agricultural standpoint. There are two small streams in the township, Pike's creek and Crooked creek. The township was slow in settling, and it was not until after the Chicago and Alton road passed through the southeast corner that any one settled here. While Pike has elected a Democratic supervisor in recent years, the township is Republican.

Among the first persons to locate here were the family of Louis LeDuc, who came in 1853 and located on section 33. LeDuc was born in France, and at the age of 18 years he entered the French army, two weeks later was promoted a non-commissioned officer, and a year later the Duke of Orleans appointed him private secretary to his wife, the crown princess. Before he was twenty years of age he was first lieutenant of artillery and secretary of the minister of war. In 1849, when the war in Italy broke out, he was called to important positions, decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor for bravery, and was eventually sent with a flag of truce to the triumvirate of Rome. Five years later he served as secretary and aide-de-camp to Marshal Bugeand



Datrick Peart

in Algiers. He returned to France in 1851, owing to ill health, and sailed that year for America, remaining in New York state one year and then coming to this township. In 1856 he planted five acres of forest trees on his farm, which, in after years, became a beautiful grove. During his residence here he did much for the improvement of the township. He was of a literary turn of mind, and during the '80s wrote a series of sketches entitled "Incidents During the Siege and Occupation of Rome by the French Army in 1849." Leonard Baker settled here the same year, erecting the first house in the township.

Alonzo Huntoon and Hilton Woodbury came from Woodford County in 1855 and settled on section 34 in the timber on the creek. The same year Albert Parker located on section 20, Bedinger on section 32, Seright on section 30, and Richmond on section 16. In 1857 George and Daniel Okeson located on section 9, James and George Anderson on section 7, Hugh McMullen on section 6, Edward Daugherty on section 30. Silas H. Sutton, a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., arrived in May, 1857, and purchased the farm of Leonard Baker. Sutton was supervisor for many years and township treasurer for nine years. S. Ricketson, also from Dutchess County, came in 1858. He remained until 1861, when he removed to Pontiac, opened a feed yard, while his wife conducted a restaurant. John Hancock came here from McLean County in 1859, and is still living on the old homestead.

Michael Herr came out from Baltimore, Md., in 1853, and purchased four sections. His nephew, Henry R. Herr, did not arrive until 1862. He purchased 160 acres in section 26 and 160 acres in section 35. The latter tract is within eighty rods of the corporate limits of the city of Chenoa.

Among those who located in the '60s we find the names of Stephen Wooding, William Wooding, Leonard Weber, Paul G. Balbach, Joseph Suydam, Thomas Shaffer, Peter Vercler, George Womeldroff, John Nichol, Henry Lommatsch, Willoughby Capes, John Klein, William Ballinger, John Guthrie, James H. Becks, Archibald Crabbe. The latter has been supervisor for many years, and is still officiating in that capacity.

In 1856 two school houses were built, one on section 27 and the other on section 31. In 1859 a school house was built on section 8. This constituted the schools in the township up to 1864. A United Presbyterian church was organized in 1863 with nine members, services being held in

one of the school houses. In 1871 the congregation had increased to forty-five members, but a few years later the congregation was disbanded. There is but one church—Methodist—in the township. It is called Bethel, and is located on the northwest quarter of section 4. Pike cemetery is located on the farm of P. J. Richardson, in section 16.

PLEASANT RIDGE TOWNSHIP.

This township is located on next to the eastern tier of townships in the county. At the time of the formation of the county in 1837, Pleasant Ridge, Saunemin, Charlotte and Sullivan townships, were comprised in one election precinct, and was called Saunemin. The following year, Pleasant Ridge and Charlotte were taken away, and the two townships were then called Pleasant Ridge. They were separated in 1864. The township is drained by the north branch of the Vermilion river.

The first person to locate here permanently was Nathan Townsend. He came from Cape May county, New Jersey, and settled on section 31 in June, 1843. Charles Brooks, who had some ten years before located in Avoca township, had built a cabin in the timber on the river, which he had sold to a man named Wilson, and Townsend secured the claim from him. When Townsend first settled here, there were but few families within a radius of a dozen miles, and but one cabin between his home and the Kankakee river. The family at times had "hard scratching" to make a living.

Hiram Popejoy and Henry DeMoss came here in 1850. They had previously located in Avoca Township. Popejoy finally removed to Fairbury and DeMoss, after some years, returned to Avoca. Isaac Wilson came here in 1853 from Avoca Township, where he had lived for sixteen years. He was the first supervisor and the first justice of the peace. M. T. Veiley and William Clark settled here in 1855 and John Masters arrived the following year. John W. Fellows settled on section 11 in the fall of 1859. This comprises a list of some of the earlier settlers in the township.

The first death in the township was Levi Ide, who died at the home of Nathan Popejoy in 1848. His remains were buried in the Popejoy cemetery in Avoca Township. His family after-

ward came from Ohio, had his remains taken up and returned and interred then in the family burying ground in his native state. The first marriage occurred in 1841, the contracting parties being St. Clair Jones and Miss Mary Brooks.

The first bridge over the Vermillion river was a wooden structure, a kind of temporary affair, which was soon after washed away by the high water. Several substantial iron bridges now span the river. The first schools were taught by Clement Hinman and Perry Abbey in 1858, the former in school house No. 2 and the latter in the Beal school house. These houses had been erected during that year. The first school trustees were James Sackett, William R. Tucker and William Beach. H. C. Hefner was clerk of the board.

The township was slow in acquiring settlers. Among those who settled in the '50s were William Cottrell, John Masters and John W. Fellows. The first Germans to locate here were Michael Meenen, Henry Kuhlman and Henry Borchers, who arrived in the early '60 from Woodford County. Since then, many German families have located here. The census of the township in 1870 was 851.

The first supervisors were: 1859, Isaac Wilson; 1861-2, George E. Estey; 1863, C. G. Friend; 1864, H. J. Roberts; 1865, L. Wallace; 1866-9, J. K. Clark; 1870-2, William Blain; 1873-4, M. T. Vieley; 1875, James H. Carter; 1876-7, J. K. Clark; 1878, W. M. Moulton. The township is strongly republican.

VILLAGE OF WING.

Wing is located on the Wabash road, midway between Forrest and Saunemin. It was laid out in May, 1880, in the southwest quarter of section 10, on the land owned by Elijah Filley and Jacob Keller. The depot was erected on Filley's land. The sum of \$1,000 was raised by subscription among the farmers and land owners of the township, which upon completion of the station house and 1,500 feet of sidetrack, was paid by the railroad company. The village has a population of about 200. It has three general stores, two blacksmith shops, lumber yard, and three grain elevators. It is one of the best grain points in the county. A two-room brick school house was erected several years ago. Two churches are located here: Methodist and United Brethren. Both edifices are frame structures. James Gibb is the present postmaster.

PONTIAC TOWNSHIP AND CITY.

The city and township of Pontiac were named after the celebrated Indian chief of the same name. There has been much dispute from whence the name originated, and prior to 1875, it was generally supposed and believed that the township and city were named in honor of Pontiac, Mich., from which place, it was claimed, the proprietors of the town came. But this was not the case, as none of the proprietors of the town came from Michigan, but most of them were residents of New York state.

In 1875, the old settlers of Livingston county met for the first time in Pontiac, the occasion being the dedication of the new court house. Among those who were invited to take part in the ceremonies was Jesse W. Fell of Normal, Ill., who was interested in the townsite of Pontiac with Messrs. Henry Weed and the Young brothers. Mr. Fell was given the honor of naming the city, as will be seen by the following letter, which was written in response to the invitation from the committee representing the old settlers, and will forever put at rest any doubts existing in the minds of our people whence came the name:

"Normal, Ill., Dec. 25, 1875.

"Hon. Jason W. Strevell.—My Dear Sir:—

"Yours inviting me to participate in the proceedings of an old settlers' meeting to be held in Pontiac on the 30th inst., is received, and under ordinary circumstances it would afford me great pleasure to comply therewith; to meet and mingle with those who have laid the basis of substantial wealth and prosperity for which Livingston County has become so justly distinguished. It is possible that I shall have the pleasure of meeting with you, but the probabilities are I shall at that time be called off in an opposite direction. In that event, please tender to your committee my grateful acknowledgments for the invitation referred to, and my regrets at not being able to be with you.

"Being associated somewhat with the early history of your city and county, it will, I trust, not be deemed intrusive to state very briefly, why Pontiac came to be the name of your county seat.

"I have always commiserated the lot of the original inhabitants of our common country, and in view of their certain and rapid extinction, have favored the perpetuation of some of their favorite names. When, therefore, in olden times, my



Bridget Heriter.

friend, Henry Weed, the first settler and proprietor of what is now your county seat, applied to me to draft a petition for the postoffice, I inserted the name of Pontiac, that being the name of a distinguished Indian Chief.

"I have the honor to be, with great respect,

"Yours Truly,

"Jesse W. Fell."

On the 27th day of July, 1837, seventy-one years prior to the present writing, the town of Pontiac was surveyed and platted by Isaac Whicher, county surveyor of Livingston county, for Henry W. Weed, Lucius W. Young and Seth M. Young, from the southeast quarter of section 22 and a part of the northeast quarter of the same.

Henry Weed and the Young brothers were from Binghamton, N. Y., Weed being a brother-in-law of the Youngs, having married their sister. They built the first cabin in the township, in which all, including an unmarried sister of the Youngs, lived. A few years after their settlement, Mrs. Weed died and in about a year's time, Mr. Weed married his sister-in-law. This proved to be the first death and marriage in the township, on which is now located the City of Pontiac. The Weed cabin was located near where the Illinois Hotel now stands. The remains of Mrs. Weed were buried at a point just north of the present site of the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company's plant, but as no stone marked the spot, and as the family moved away a few years later, the grave, and those of a few others, have been entirely lost sight of.

The Young brothers died in about one month's time after the plat of the town of Pontiac was made, Lucius having passed away on July 24th, 1837, while Seth M. died on September 1, just one week later. Their remains were buried on a knoll in the northeastern part of the town, a block south of where the Mission church now stands. The knoll was used as a burying ground from that time on until 1857, when the present city cemetery was opened for this purpose.

About the time the town of Pontiac was laid out, there were several other people interested here, James McKee, who came from Joliet and C. H. Perry from Jacksonville, and Jesse W. Fell from Bloomington. McKee and Perry built the dam across the river and erected a saw mill on the present site of Williams' mill. The mill was finished in 1838.

Soon after the town site was located, an ef-

fort was made to dispose of the lots in order to encourage a settlement in the town, but the financial crash of 1837 came at a very inopportune moment, and much to the discomfort of the promoters of Pontiac. These lots were put upon the market and sold at auction, or exchanged for other lots or lands. Many were sent east and sold at good prices, the purchaser in many instances never inquiring after his purchase, as the bursting of the bubble soon informed him how badly he was sold. It is related that an auctioneer in Chicago was crying a lot in Pontiac and said that this particular one was well watered. A bystander who had evidently been here, replied, "You are right, for I was over it in a canoe, and I could not reach it with a ten foot pole."

When the crash came, emigration to the town almost entirely ceased. Wheat went down from two dollars to fifty cents, and no cash at that; pork from twenty-five dollars a barrel to one dollar per hundred; corn to ten cents, with store pay at one hundred per cent profit. Hides, tallow, deer skins, and furs, were the only articles that would bring cash.

It is no wonder that Henry Weed became discouraged and returned to his old home in Binghamton, N. Y., where he died on July 1, 1842.

In 1839, however, Weed entered the land and the title to the townsite was wholly in his name. Soon after this, Isaac Fellows, a brother-in-law of the Youngs, came out from Oswego, N. Y., for the purpose of administering on their estate, and of securing to himself, as heir, their interest. Amicable settlement was made by Weed transferring an undivided one-half interest in the tract to Fellows. Thus Fellows and Weed became joint owners of the town. Isaac Fellows soon thereafter conveyed to his brother, Augustus Fellows, all of his interest, and some other parties, who laid claim to the estate of the Youngs, quit-claimed to him. The title then vested in Henry Weed and Augustus Fellows.

When Weed died, he left as his heirs, Henry Weed, Jr., John P. Lewis and Henry Stephens, the last two sons-in-law of Weed. In 1849, Augustus Fellows, who had previously moved to Pontiac with his family, died on August 24, 1849, leaving the undivided half interest to his wife, Maria Fellows, now Mrs. Maria Owens, at present the oldest living survivor of the early days of Pontiac. Mrs. Owens subsequently married Nelson Buck. A few years later, a suit was in-

stituted for the purpose of dividing the property. A commission was appointed and an equitable portion was set off to the heirs of Weed, Lewis, Stephens and Weed, Jr., and the remainder to Mrs. Buck.

As an evidence of the speculative craze of 1837, as to the real value of lots in Pontiac, an extract of the final report of Isaac Fellows, as administrator of the estate of Lucius and Seth Young, is given. The report was filed December 19, 1860: "That the appraisement of lands enumerated in bill filed was based wholly and entirely on fictitious grounds; that the appraisement was made during the land speculation of that early day and were of value as the claims only on such lands; that the claims were not pre-emption claims, but squatter claims only."

The next year following the panic was noted as being one of the most unhealthy years in the history of the township, and probably there were more deaths in proportion to population in 1838 than in any year since it was laid out. An excessive spring flood that covered the bottoms till the middle of summer, and then dried off with extreme hot weather in August, sufficiently accounts for that exceptional season. The winter was very cold and the food supply of the settlers soon gave out. Many of the new comers returned to their homes in the east and the town of Pontiac was practically deserted.

From a communication published in 1869 in the Pontiac Sentinel by Nelson Buck, that gentleman states "that in 1842 there were but two families residing within the limits of the first survey of Pontiac, viz; John Foster and Daniel Ebersol." The latter was clerk of the county court for several years and lived just east of the court house square on what is now known as the Mossholder property. His son, Joseph W. Ebersol, was born here in June 28, 1842, and was the second child born in Pontiac. Joseph is still living and resides in Chicago, and is the oldest member of the Sons of Pontiac.

John Foster came to Pontiac in 1836. He was a millwright by trade and helped construct the dam across the Vermilion river at this point. He also built the saw mill and assisted in the construction of the first court house. Mr. Foster came here alone and for about a year lived just west of the town site. The next year following, he returned to his home in Cayuga county, N. Y., returning here in 1838 with his family and that of his father-in-law, numbering in all,

seventeen people. They settled on a farm just east of the town. During the year, Mr. Foster's wife and two children and his father-in-law died of milk sickness. He was for many years the keeper of a hotel here and entertained many people who, in after years, became noted in the history of our county. He organized the first Sunday School ever held in the town and was its superintendent, was vice president of the first Bible society ever organized in the county, and was a power for good in the early days of the town for all that went for the betterment of the community. It was through his efforts, principally, that Pontiac is still the county seat of the county of Livingston, and the history of the county could not be written with his name left out. Mr. Foster was married four times and leaves many descendants. He left here in 1878 and died at the home of his son, Robert, in Wellington, Kansas, in 1886. The following lines written in his memory by O. F. Pearre will convey a more succinct account of his habit of thought:

Old John Foster I used to meet
On the corner of Mill and Madison street.

And as he talked his mind went back,
To the early days of Pontiac.

For John was here when rank grass grew,
On park and street and avenue;

And the fox and wolf devoured their prey
Where the towers of the court house stand today.

And John was here in the aftertime,
When Lincoln and Douglas were in their prime

Of early manhood; and came to meet
Each other in court; when old Judge Treat

Presided and held the balance even,
Between young Abe and passionate Stephen.

And boarded with John and often fed
On nice fat pork and good corn bread.

"Those trees in the court house yard," said he,
"Were planted there by old Judge Lee.

"With cotton twine he measured the square,
And set the elms and maples there."

Lee may sleep in an unknown grave,
But so long as those trees their branches wave.

Men will remember him as one
Who has a kindly action done.

"The new court house in the square," said John,
"Is a stately building to look upon."

"In eighteen hundred and thirty-nine
I dropped the plummet and drew the line

"On the first court house—it was built of wood,
There in the midst of the square it stood.

"Two stories high and painted white,
It was to our eyes a goodly sight."

"David Davis one night," said he,
"Stopped in town and put up with me."

"Supper was eaten, good-night was said,
And David Davis went to bed."

"I heard a crash and went to see,
And there on his back on the floor was he.

"And I saw a wreck where that bed stead stood—
I had borrowed the same of Dan Rockwood."

Thus Old John Foster talked away,
With his kindly smile and pleasant way;

But the pioneer has played his part
With willing hands and honest heart.

Uncle John grew weak and old,
His tale of years at last is told.

He bade farewell and passed away,
In the dawning light of a better day.

Very little attention was being attracted to Pontiac so long ago as 1842, and its history from that time until 1853-54 was dull enough. So many other places were springing up, like Aladdin's Palace, simply by apparent magic, whose immediate prospects were so much more glorious than those of this village, that but little immigration was attracted hitherward.

Dr. John Davis, of whom but little is known at this date, arrived here in 1833. He was the first physician to locate in the county and settled on some land just east of the city limits.

Soon after the arrival of Henry Weed and the Young brothers to this township, came Isaac Whicher in 1834. He was a surveyor and was employed by Weed, and afterwards in 1837 was elected the first surveyor of Livingston County, resigning shortly afterwards to join his former employer in the construction of railroads.

Nathan Popejoy came from Ohio in the same year and settled on what is known as the Rollins farm, two miles east of Pontiac. He did not enter the land on which he settled and in a few years removed into Avoca Township.

Truman Rutherford and son, Alonzo, together with their families, came from Vermont in 1835. The elder Rutherford settled just west of the city, while his son built his home on the lot now occupied by the Lutheran church. Rutherford resided here until 1845, when he died, his wife following him three years later.

The Rev. John Holman, a Methodist minister with his family, came into the township in 1836 and remained here about three years. He held meetings at the different houses throughout the county, and was the first minister to locate here.

Dr. Cornelius W. Reynolds was the first postmaster of Pontiac and the first physician to locate in the village. He first settled in Amity Township but moved to Pontiac in 1837. During Dr. Reynolds' term the postoffice was located in the court house for some time, and there was but one mail each week. A person could mail a letter in any part of the United States then without first putting on the stamp, and letters from eastern friends would lie for weeks in his office, for the reason that money could not be procured to pay the postage, then 25 cents on each letter.

Garret M. Blue settled in Pontiac Township in 1836, coming from Rooks Creek Township, where he had located in 1831. He lived just west of the townsite, and died here in 1849 of cholera. In 1840, he was elected sheriff of the county, defeating John Foster by a vote of 66 to 29.

Joseph and Sylvester Perry were among the very early settlers of the township, coming here from Ohio in 1833. They were interested with C. H. Perry and James McKee in the saw mill property, and assisted materially in getting the town started. They settled a few miles northwest of town and purchased their land from the government in 1839. Sylvester died in 1840, while his brother, Joseph, resided here fifteen years later, and passed away October 7, 1865.

Dr. James S. Munson was also an early arrival

in the town, coming in 1836. He was appointed clerk of the commissioner's court in 1837 to fill the vacancy caused by the non-residence at the county seat of M. I. Rose, who had been elected to fill that office.

There were a few more early settlers in the township prior to 1840, among whom were Joseph Hefner, brother of the first sheriff of the county; Andrew S. McMillan, who later removed to Rooks Creek Township; Daniel Blue, Leonard Franklin, William H. Wells, James and Thomas Campbell. For the most part, these settled on farms near the townsite of Pontiac, then occupied by a very few inhabitants.

During the period intervening between 1840 and 1850, there were but few arrivals in Pontiac, but those who came during this time proved in after years that they were indeed valuable acquisitions. Among those who arrived were Samuel C. Ladd, Philip Rollins, Augustus Fellows, John R. Wolgamott, William Gray, John A. Fellows, Drs. C. B. Ostrander and John Hulsey.

Samuel C. Ladd arrived here in 1842, coming from Connecticut and remained until his death, which occurred June 22, 1878. Mr. Ladd was a man of education and a thorough business man. He taught the first school in Pontiac, which held its sessions in the court house, in 1843, was the first real merchant of the village, and for a time was part owner of the saw mill. He held various offices of trust, among which were those of postmaster, circuit clerk, county clerk and assessor of internal revenue, and when the village of Pontiac was organized in 1856, was one of the prime movers in that direction, being elected a member of the first board of trustees. He was one of the organizers of the Livingston County Agricultural Society and was the first secretary of the association. For many years he resided on a farm just west of the city limits, and became largely interested in real estate in Pontiac. Mr. Ladd was a member of the Presbyterian church and was one of its organizers. He married Miss Mary E. McDowell, who came to the county in 1850. Mrs. Ladd still survives and at present resides in Pontiac.

Willet Gray, John R. Wolgamott and John A. Fellows arrived in Pontiac during this period. They were clerks in the different stores, Mr. Gray being manager for the firm of Brown Brothers of Bloomington, while Mr. Wolgamott became manager for B. T. Phelps of Ottawa, who purchased the stock of goods from Ladd & Gray.

Mr. Fellows acted as clerk in the Phelps store.

Mr. Wolgamott was a man of quiet habits and was well liked by all. He taught school in Pontiac for several years and held various offices of trust, being township school treasurer, justice of the peace, deputy circuit clerk and special master in chancery. He also practiced law for a number of years, being a member of the firm of Strawn, Wolgamott & McDowell. He moved with his family to Newton, Kan., in 1880, and later to Kansas City, Mo., where he died in 1898.

John A. Fellows was from New York and until the breaking out of the Civil War followed the occupation of clerk. In 1862, he enlisted and went to the front and served until the close of the war. He was deputy clerk for one term, and at the end of his term was elected clerk, retiring to enter the abstract firm of R. Olney & Co. He was appointed postmaster of Pontiac during the administration of President Harrison, and died during his term in 1892.

Philip Rollins and family came from Ohio in 1846 and settled two miles east of the townsite of Pontiac. Mr. Rollins by trade was a carpenter and millwright, but during his residence here was engaged for the most part in the cultivation of the soil. In 1847 Mr. Rollins, together with Henry Jones and James H. DeMoss, built the first bridge over the Vermillion river at Pontiac, the contract price being \$450. Shortly after the bridge was completed in March, 1849, it was carried away by the high water and Rollins and DeMoss were given a new contract by the county court to restore the bridge to its former place. In 1849 he was one of the county justices. He always took a lively interest in the affairs of this community, served several terms as supervisor from this township and for eight years was justice of the peace. The Rollins home was always noted for its genuine hospitality during their many years of residence here, and since the death of the venerable couple, their many descendants hereabouts have carefully followed this precept.

Augustus Fellows and wife came in 1846 from Oswego, N. Y. Mr. Fellows was the owner of half the townsite and on his arrival here proceeded to erect the first hotel in Pontiac, which was completed and ready for occupancy in 1848. The hotel was rented for the first year, while Mr. and Mrs. Fellows returned to their old home in New York for a visit. On their return, they



JOHN FLEISCHHAVER AND FAMILY

assumed charge of the hotel, which later on became quite famous as a stopping place.

At this time, people can hardly appreciate the trying scenes through which the early pioneers of Pontiac passed. The summer and fall of 1838 were quite sickly, but in 1849 it was much more so. The population had increased now to about eighty inhabitants and the little hamlet was moving along slowly but surely. All at once during this year business of all kinds stopped and intercourse with the outside world was cut off entirely. The cholera broke out and before its ravages could be checked several of the most prominent citizens had succumbed to the dreadful scourge. It also proved disastrous in more ways than one. Exaggerated and fearful stories were sent over the country that season in relation to the sickness, and quite a few of the settlers either moved to other points or returned from whence they came. New arrivals were few and far between during the next five years, when the Chicago & Alton railroad reached the townsite.

Altogether thirteen died in Pontiac township, among the number being Augustus Fellows and two little daughters, Garret Blue, his wife, son, daughter and grandchild, John Blue, wife and one child. Dr. Holland of Rooks Creek was called to attend Mr. Fellows and was also stricken with the scourge and died in a few days, as was also Miss Ann Oliver, sister of Franklin Oliver of Oliver's Grove, who was teaching school in a settlement east of town, and came to the hotel to nurse those afflicted.

Drs. John Hulsey and C. B. Ostrander arrived shortly afterwards, attracted here no doubt by the prevalence of cholera. Dr. Hulsey came from Kentucky while Dr. Ostrander was a native of New York. Dr. Ostrander only remained a short time, moving to Avoca, where he resided for nearly half a century. He moved to Fairbury about fifteen years ago and lived in retirement up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1901. Dr. Hulsey practiced here for several years, then moved to Fairbury in 1859, finally to Oregon.

About this time there arrived in Pontiac, Nelson Buck, who came from near Bloomington. Mr. Buck was a widower with three children, and shortly after his coming, was married to the widow of Augustus Fellows. Mr. Buck was a man of many interesting peculiarities and was always first and foremost in everything that went for the upbuilding of the town. He was a surveyor and was elected to that position for several

terms. Mr. Buck was one of the first trustees of the village of Pontiac, organized in 1856, and was the leading force which brought about the incorporation. He was a ready writer for the press in the early days of Pontiac, and many of the older residents now living remember the caustic articles printed over his signature. In 1869, while engaged in writing the first history of the county, he received an appointment as surveyor from the United States government, with orders to proceed at once to the territory of Nebraska. The history was about one-fifth completed when he left for the west. Before leaving for the west, Mr. Buck inserted an advertisement in one of the local papers for eight young men to accompany him on the trip, assuring them of plenty of sport, with an excellent chance to see the country. The opportunity afforded by the expedition for exploring the wilds of western Nebraska attracted the attention of several of the more adventurous young men of this place, who made application to Mr. Buck for employment, and were enrolled as members of the party, and on the 29th day of June, 1869, Mr. Buck, Frank McFarland, Buxton McGregor, John Nettleton, Will McCulloch and James Sager started from Pontiac for the field of their labors. Frank McFarland was the son of a merchant tailor who resided here at that time, while Buxton McGregor still resides here, and is the only living member of the party. Will McCulloch was the son of the late Mrs. D. J. Taylor and a brother of Mrs. Emma Voight, who taught in the public schools of Pontiac for several years. John Nettleton was the son of the late Mrs. J. W. Strevell of Miles City, Mont., and well known among the old settlers of Pontiac. James Sager was a farmer boy and resided with his folks in Owego Township. None of these young men were over seventeen years of age. They left Pontiac and proceeded to Council Bluffs, Iowa, by rail, and from that point proceeded to a point opposite Plattsmouth, Neb., where they crossed the Missouri river. At Plattsmouth, they were joined by six others and proceeded without interruption to Fort Kearney, Neb., where they were to receive a military escort. While at Fort Kearney, Mr. Buck was cautioned not to proceed further by the commandant, Colonel Pollock, who stated that the country was full of Indians on the war-path and that they had been engaged but a few days previous by a troop of cavalry from the fort. After waiting for several days for the

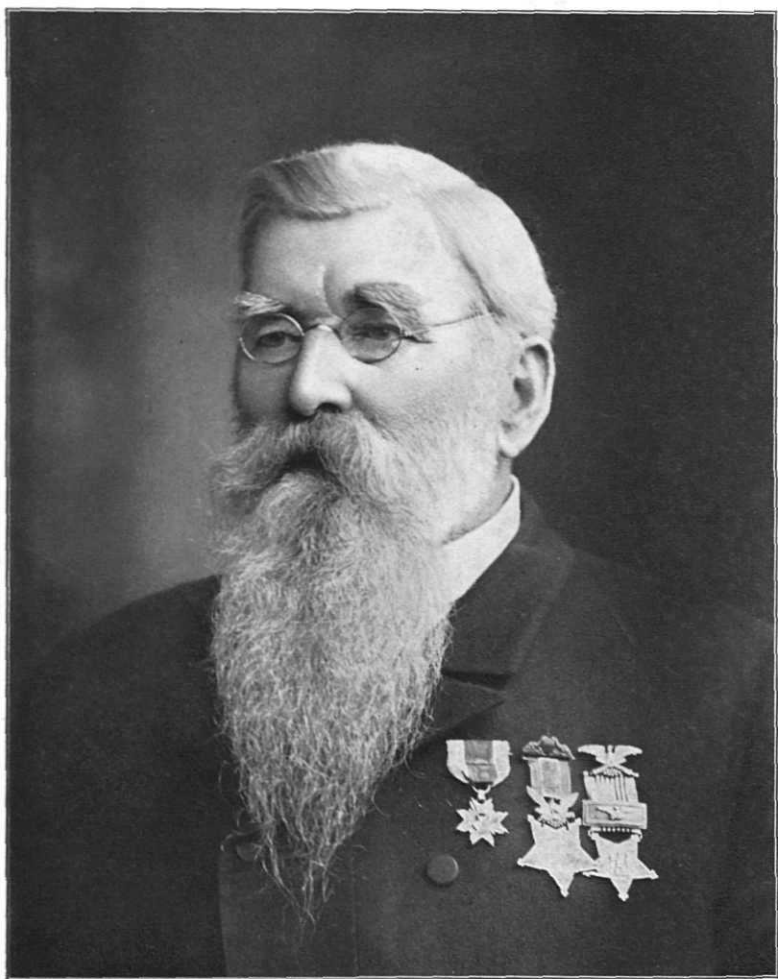
escort and not procuring one, Mr. Buck decided to push forward, and accordingly left the fort with his party. After journeying two days westward and encountering many of the Sioux tribe, Mr. Buck became alarmed and sent young McGregor and Nettleton back to Fort Kearney with a request to the Colonel that he send an escort at once. The boys returned to the fort and delivered the message, and as no troops were forthcoming decided to remain until one was provided. No troops being available the escort was not provided and McGregor and Nettleton left the fort with their faces turned toward the east and worked their way back to Pontiac, having seen all the Indians they desired. The surveying party, ten in number, left Fort Kearney about the middle of July, and as nothing had been heard of them an expedition from North Platte headed by Lieutenant Haskins, U. S. A., with William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) as a scout, left that place the first of October in search of them. On the 10th of October, Lieutenant Haskins reported to his superior of having found about thirty miles southeast of McPherson, where Mr. Buck's party was supposed to be, two tripods, a camp and camp equipage, and some canned fruits. The camp had the appearance of being deserted. He also saw some parts of a wagon. Not long after this, a band of Indians were captured, and it was admitted by them that they had a fight with a party at the point above mentioned; that it was a desperate one and that the last to fall was a tall man, who was in charge of the party. The Indians denied that they burned the bodies of the men, but careful search by expeditions sent out in search of the missing party failed to find them, and as not one of them ever returned or has since been heard of, it was generally supposed at the time that after killing every member of the gallant little band, their bodies were disposed of by the Indians in a manner peculiar to their own.

William Wise and family settled on a farm just east of the townsite of Pontiac in 1849, making their home in an abandoned log cabin. They were on their way to California, having contracted the gold fever, left their home in the east and with an ox team arrived here. They had encountered so many hardships on the road that Mr. Wise concluded to abandon the California trip. In a few years the family moved to Pontiac, where Mr. Wise and his good wife passed away many years ago.

John and Daniel Mossholder, two brothers, arrived in Pontiac Township in 1847 from the State of Ohio. They engaged in farming northwest of Pontiac. John was killed in the civil war, and in the early '60s Daniel moved to Wisconsin, where he died over thirty years ago. Samuel Mossholder, a son of Daniel, died in Pontiac in April, 1908, having resided in Pontiac sixty-one years.

On the 8th day of May, 1852, Jacob Streamer arrived in Pontiac from Reading where he had been clerking in a store for two years previous. Mr. Streamer was a native of Pennsylvania and came to Illinois in 1844, locating at Magnolia. He came here with the intention of locating and going into business, but found the outlook discouraging to say the least. But Mr. Streamer was a man of energy and was made of the stuff that never turned back. There was hardly a dozen families in Pontiac then, and only six houses were located about the square. He had built on the east side of the square a small "shack," and being a tailor by trade, opened up for business. He carried a stock of notions and made deer skin mittens which met with ready sale. Success crowned his every effort from the start, and his business was enlarged accordingly by adding a stock of drugs, wines, brandies and cigars and all the leading patent medicines. His store was a veritable curiosity shop, and from the day he entered the little village up to the time of his death in 1890, he kept a daily diary of happenings about town and the state of the weather. His library was well stocked with the best books, showing him to be a man of culture. His fund of information about Pontiac and the early inhabitants was large, and his store was always the headquarters of the early arrivals here. He accumulated considerable property to serve him in his declining years. He was postmaster for two years and justice of the peace for twelve years. In 1853, he was married to Miss Salina Sturman, who died in 1895. They had three children, Frank now deceased, Mrs. Mary Cobbe, residing in Chicago, and Mrs. Hattie Mossholder, who resides in Pontiac.

John H. McGregor was the first lawyer to locate in Pontiac. He arrived here from Ottawa with his family in 1853 and built the house which still stands at the corner of North Oak and West Madison streets. Shortly after his arrival another attorney, Joel H. Dart, arrived. A partnership was formed under the style of



HENRY FOX

McGregor & Dart. Mr. McGregor only lived a short time after his coming here, passing away in 1856, while his partner, Mr. Dart, died one year later at his old home in New York.

Samuel Garner and three sons arrived here in 1851. One of his sons, Jerome, was appointed postmaster at Pontiac, but turned the office over to Jacob Streamer, who conducted the same in his store on the east side of the square.

The Loveless brothers, Henry and Ira, came here in 1852 from the State of Ohio. Henry was a peddler and located at Richmond, two miles east of Pontiac, and engaged in business. But the town failed when the railroad came through Pontiac, and with the balance of the population he moved to Pontiac. Henry was soon afterwards elected sheriff of the county, while his brother at one time held the office of justice of the peace. Both are dead.

Dr. James M. Perry from Ohio, came in 1852 and practiced medicine for twenty-two years, until his death, which occurred in 1874. He was a first class physician and met with success.

The next year (1853) came Dr. Darius Johnson from New York. He first located near Ottawa. The doctor practiced here until his death, which occurred in 1877. He was always prominent in the political affairs of the county in the early days and was acquainted with most all of the inhabitants. He served as surgeon of the 129th Ill. regiment throughout the civil war and at the time of his death was coroner of the county. His widow still resides here, as does also his son, Ford B. A daughter, Mrs. Geraldine Turner lives near Independence, Mo. Mrs. Johnson still resides in the family home which was completed in 1857, located two blocks west from the court house square.

About this time, Charles M. Lee came to Pontiac to reside. He engaged in the mercantile business and with A. B. Cowan conducted a general store on the west side of the square. Mr. Lee was inclined towards politics and was afterward elected county judge. He did much towards beautifying the town, being instrumental in setting out the beautiful trees now to be seen in the court house yard. Mr. Cowan was a very popular merchant.

In 1850 James W. Remick came to the township, two miles northwest of the city, where he conducted a grist mill. He was elected sheriff of the county in 1856, and held the office of circuit clerk for eight years. Mr. Remick studied

law, was admitted to the bar, but never practiced the profession. He did much to improve the town and erected a hotel on North Mill street near where the Odd Fellows' hall now stands. The hotel was destroyed by fire in 1870. His wife still resides in this city. Mrs. Remick was always a leader in the church and social affairs of Pontiac in the early days, and for many years was engaged in the millinery business, where the National Bank of Pontiac now stands. Mrs. Remick built the bank building, which was sold a few years ago to the banking house. Her two daughters, Mrs. D. M. Lyon and Mrs. Edgar Cook, are also among the early settlers of Pontiac, and have always been prominent in church and social affairs in this community.

Thomas Cleland arrived in Pontiac in 1852 and opened a blacksmith shop. He and his wife have passed away, being survived by two sons, Walter, residing in this city, and William H., residing in Kansas City.

Isaac P. McDowell arrived in Pontiac in 1853, moving in from Avoca, to which settlement he came in 1850. He formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Samuel C. Ladd, and Attorney John H. McGregor. The firm invested \$20,000 in a general stock and conducted the largest store in the county at that time, their place of business being located on the south side of the square. This firm received the first shipment of goods to arrive over the Chicago & Alton after the road was completed. Mr. McDowell remained here but two years, moving back to his farm in Avoca, and the firm name was soon changed to that of Cassidy, Ladd & Co.

John Balmer came to the township in 1852, locating a mile southeast of the town of Pontiac, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres. He has added much to his original purchase and is now the owner of about 1,600 acres in this township.

Samuel McCormick, a native of Virginia, settled on section 25, Pontiac Township in 1854, and engaged in farming and the live stock business. The McCormick homestead is still occupied by his children. Like all of the early pioneers, Mr. McCormick was a hard worker and endured many hardships. He died in 1881.

In 1853, Benjamin W. Gray arrived in Pontiac, opening up a harness shop, but soon afterwards engaged in merchandising. He was appointed postmaster in 1856, and afterwards was elected circuit clerk of the county, serving four years. His wife opened the first millinery store

in Pontiac. Mr. Gray died about twenty years ago, Mrs. Gray in 1907.

John M. Finley, Robert Aeri, Samuel Schlosser, Thomas Virgin, Richard Evans and Dudley Laycock came to the township about this time, locating on farms. All became prominent in this avocation, but with the exception of Mr. Finley, all have passed away.

For seventeen years, the townsite of Pontiac had been in existence, and during that time the settlement was of slow growth, and from all accounts, the morals of the people were not of the highest standard. There were many good people in the township who came from the east and were people of high moral character, but the majority were of the drinking, gambling class, and horse racing and fighting were frequently indulged in and the Sabbath day was almost lost sight of. But a new era was dawning. The Chicago, Alton & St. Louis railroad was approaching from the great metropolis of Chicago to connect with the great city of St. Louis to the south. The railroad reached within about two miles of the townsite on the Fourth day of July, 1854, and all the people in Pontiac and for miles around gathered at that point, and one of the grandest celebrations of Independence day ever held in Pontiac was had. What the crowd lacked in numbers it made up in exclamations of genuine feelings of joy. Previous to this time, every article of merchandise, provisions, etc., were hauled into Pontiac, principally with ox teams, from Bloomington, Peoria, Ottawa, Joliet and Chicago. All of the buildings were built of lumber cut from the banks of the Vermilion river. These were few in number, however, but the lumber used in constructing them is today the most expensive on the market. The sills and beams were made of oak while the siding was of the finest black walnut. The shingles were made of oak and ash. They presented a dingy appearance, as no paint was used.

All of the buildings, including the dwelling houses, in Pontiac at that time were located around the court house square, these not being over two or three within two blocks of that point. But with the advent of the railroad, the town commenced to grow toward the west side. The American house, the Stevens house and the Washington hotel were soon under construction, as were numerous places of business and dwelling houses. It was thought at one time that what is now known as the west side of Pontiac would be

the business section, and for a number of years it looked that way, but about 1870 things took a change and the business commenced to go back up town. In a few years' time the west end as a business section was abandoned.

Before the railroad came, the settlers in and around Pontiac were natives of the eastern states, the majority of them being from the states of New York, Ohio and Indiana, but with the railroad came a new class of citizens, most of whom were Irish, who were arriving in this country then in large numbers from their native land.

Among those who arrived about this time and a little later were William Cleary, who worked on the railroad, but afterwards became interested in the first coal mine sunk in Pontiac, Luke Jordan and family, who lived in town for three years, removing to a farm just west of the city where he now resides; William Googerty, Sr., and his son, William, Jr., who were for many years contractors for supplying the new railroad with wood and water. William Googerty, Sr., first came to Pontiac about 1850. About the time the railroad came through he returned to Elgin and induced his son and wife to accompany him to Pontiac, which they did. William Googerty and son are long since dead, the latter being killed by the cars near where the widow and her two sons, Thomas and Andrew, now reside. Patrick O'Connell and family, Michael O'Brien and family, the Burke brothers (William, James, Redmond and John); Martin Holland and family, William Berry and family, Patrick Troy and family, Dennis Byrnes and family, Patrick Dolan and family, Michael Rotheram and family, Michael McCabe and family, Frank Roach, Edward Sweeney, John Cleary, William O'Hair, Michael Sullivan, Frank Lilly, Mathew O'Brien, Patrick McDonald, Patrick Flanagan, Patrick Smith, John Rotheram and James Haffey.

Many of those above mentioned arrived in Pontiac in very poor circumstances. All were laboring men and they went to work with a will. In after years, some became prominent and influential citizens while a number of those mentioned responded to their country's call a few years later and marched to the front and served with distinction throughout the conflict.

But few of the early settlers of Pontiac among the Irish race are here today. Some of them moved further west and engaged in farming, while a number are at rest in the Catholic cemetery just east of the city.

Soon after the railroad reached Pontiac, people from every direction came here to make a home. In 1854, H. H. Norton arrived from the state of Maine. He was a carpenter by trade and proceeded at once to erect a planing mill where he was engaged for some time. He superintended the erection of the first brick school house in Pontiac in 1866 and one year later the Odd Fellows hall. Shortly afterwards Mr. Norton engaged in the manufacture of furniture with Edward Bertram and later with George W. Rice. He now resides in Colorado.

Soon after Mr. Norton arrived came other carpenters, among whom were Douglas J. Lyon, Joseph R. Virgin, Edwin R. Maples, Harvey B. Gunsul, Wallace Lord, Fred and James Sincell, B. Fisher, Richard D. Folks, Malcolm Maples, George W. Bay, W. H. Roberts, Martin & Sellman, George Wolgamott and George Fowler. These men have all contributed to the up-building of Pontiac in more ways than with the square, hammer, plane and saw. Douglas J. Lyon still resides in Pontiac and is living in retirement. He served throughout the Civil War as a soldier, and after the rebellion was crushed, he came home and at once resumed his old trade, which he followed until advancing years forced his retirement.

Joseph R. Virgin removed to California in the early '70s where he died a few years ago. Edwin R. Maples soon went into politics. In 1858 he became deputy sheriff under James W. Remick, serving four years. Was afterwards elected sheriff and in time held various positions of trust in Pontiac, among which was justice of the peace and city treasurer. He died in 1877.

Harvey B. Gunsul is still a resident of Pontiac, living in retirement. He was a pioneer livery man and has accumulated a small fortune. Wallace Lord and Richard Folks are also living in Pontiac, both having retired from the trade. Both were soldiers in the Civil War. Mr. Lord built and owned the first opera house ever erected in Pontiac, only to retire when the building was destroyed by fire twenty-five years ago. Mr. Folks succeeded Mr. Lord in the amusement business and is now the proprietor and manager of the only opera house in Pontiac. The Sincell brothers and Mr. Fisher moved from Pontiac many years ago. Mrs. Folks died January 8, 1909.

George W. Hemstreet was a pioneer brick mason and worked at the first brick building erected in Pontiac. He became prominent in political af-

fairs in the county but never aspired to public office. He enlisted at the outbreak of the Civil War with the 53rd Ill. regiment, and was killed in battle near Jackson, Miss., in 1863.

Robert Foster, son 'of the pioneer "Uncle" Johnny Foster; Charles Knight and brother were also pioneer brick masons and helped construct most all of the foundations and buildings in Pontiac prior to their departure for the west about thirty years ago. Samuel Herbert and John C. Wickery were the first plasterers in the village. Foster went west in the early '80s and died in Denver, Colo., in 1907. Samuel Herbert followed the trade until 1874, when he went into the ice business, and now lives in retirement at the ripe age of 85 years. Wickery died in Pontiac about twenty years ago.

David Biteman was also one of the pioneer brick masons of Pontiac and worked on the first brick building erected in Pontiac by Judge Henry Jones.

H. G. Challis, Edward Wilson, Thomas Cleland, William T. Miller, John S. Lee and Isaac Umphenour were the village blacksmiths who arrived during the fifties. John S. Lee and Edward Wilson are the only living of these pioneer smiths, both retiring on account of their advancing years. They served throughout the Civil War and have always been prominent citizens of Pontiac. Challis, Cleland, Miller and Umphenour have been dead for many years.

Augustus W. Cowan came to Pontiac in 1854 from New York State. He secured a position as clerk in a store, gradually working himself up until he branched out for himself. Mr. Cowan and his partner, Jonathan Duff, organized the first bank in Pontiac in 1866, and since that time he has always been connected with everything that went toward the advancing the interests of Pontiac.

Rufus W. Babcock is another old settler who figured largely in the history of Pontiac. With his family he arrived here from his native state of Massachusetts in 1854. They settled on land near the Rockwood farm, but two years later Mr. Babcock came to Pontiac and engaged in the dry goods and grocery business with his brother, Henry J. Babcock, the firm retiring in the early '70's. Mr. Babcock was the first Mayor of Pontiac when it was organized as a city, and now lives in retirement in Chicago with his only son, Benjamin.

Among the pioneer merchants who came about

this time were John Dehner and son, Joseph; F. C. Brown and brother, Dr. Thomas Crosswell, William T. Russell, George Olmstead, J. Lucian Young, Strevell & Kinsell, George W. Boyer, McNichol brothers, James and John; Johnson and Easton, Greenebaum brothers, Henry and Joseph; Francis Brucker and sons, Simon and Adolph; John W. Damon, Z. N. Nettleton, R. B. McIntyre, C. N. Olmstead & Co., Murray & Hinsey, John Geiger, Skinner & Son, Morris Johnson, Cassidy, Ladd & Co., Mrs. B. W. Gray, Mrs. Sarah Remick and Miss Ann Smith, Park Loomis and L. E. Kent, Charles A. McGregor and Job E. Dye.

John Dehner built the first brick building around the square, it being completed in 1857. The building was three stories high, the top floor being used for a hall for dancing parties and other entertainments. The building still stands, although the front has been greatly changed and does not much resemble the building of fifty years ago. Mr. Dehner and son conducted a general store. Both are dead.

F. C. Brown and brother came from Joliet and built a large two-story frame building near the Alton depot. They ran a general store and were extensive merchants.

Dr. Thomas Crosswell was a pioneer druggist and also practiced medicine. He moved to Streator about thirty-five years ago, where he died October 6, 1908, at the advanced age of 94 years.

William T. Russell was connected with the firm of Babcock & Brother. He was also sheriff of the county and a leader among the early organizers of the republican party.

George Olmstead was the pioneer lumber dealer of Pontiac, remaining but a few years, disposing of his business to the firm of Ellis & Fischer. He moved to Kansas City, Mo., in the early '60s where he still resides, conducting the largest wholesale and retail jewelry store in that city.

John Lucien Young was engaged in the harness business, in which he continued up to the time of his death, about ten years ago.

Strevell & Kinsell were in the hardware business, George W. Boyer was a manufacturer and dealer in furniture and coffins, Cassidy, Ladd & Co., conducted a general store, the McNichol Brothers, James and John, were manufacturers of boots and shoes, Johnson & Easton ran a drug and notion store, John W. Damon and Z. H. Nettleton were the pioneer jewelers, C. N. Olmstead & Co. ran a grocery, Murray & Hinsey were the pioneer ambrotype takers and soon commenced

taking photographs, Morris Johnson conducted a general store, John Geiger and John Zimmerman were the keepers of a harness shop, while Mrs. Benjamin W. Gray, Mrs. Sarah Remick and Miss Ann Smith were the pioneers in the millinery and dressmaking art.

Henry Greenebaum was the pioneer clothing merchant and the first member of the Jewish faith to settle in Livingston County. He made regular visits here from Lexington, McLean County, where he conducted a clothing store in partnership with his brother, Joseph. Mr. Greenebaum settled in Pontiac in 1856 and at once opened a clothing store, with Dr. J. W. Youmans as a partner, and one year later with his brother, Joseph. Together the brothers organized the Livingston County National bank, the first national bank in the county, and were connected with that institution until they were called away by death. They were always prominent in the affairs of the city and county and were what is termed sound business men.

Shortly after the Greenebaums arrived came another Jewish family, the firm of Francis Brucker & Sons, the sons being Adolph and Simon. They remained in business in Pontiac until about fifteen years ago, when they moved to Chicago. Simon Brucker was the leading musician of Pontiac for many years and a leader of the first band to be organized. He served throughout the war with the 39th Illinois Volunteer regiment, and for many years traveled for the New York firm of A. T. Stewart & Co.

Park Loomis and L. E. Kent were pioneer grain merchants, the latter remaining here until his death a few years ago. Mr. Kent erected the first and only distillery ever run in Livingston County. The business proved a failure and Mr. Kent then engaged in his old line, that of grain merchant.

Job E. Dye was engaged with John Dehner in his general store, remaining with the firm until they retired from business, when he engaged in buying grain, at which business he continued until his death about twenty years ago.

Charles A. McGregor has been engaged in business in Pontiac longer than any other resident of the city. He came here with his father, the pioneer attorney, two years before the railroad arrived. He clerked in various stores and finally branched out for himself in the drug, book and notion line, a business which he still continues to this day, being the head of the house of C. A.



CHARLES J. FROEBE AND FAMILY

McGregor & Sons. He was appointed postmaster of Pontiac in 1866.

Mention in particular is made here of these firms from the fact that most of them were well-known at the time all over the county, Pontiac then being the leading trading point of the early settlers. Dwight, Odell, Forrest, Chatsworth and Fairbury were not platted when some of these firms mentioned above were engaged in trade. Most of those named are long since dead, some moved away, but in minds of most of the people living in Pontiac today they exist only in memory.

Soon after John McGregor and Joel H. Dart opened their law office in Pontiac, others of that profession soon followed. During the '50s Jerome P. Garner entered the profession, although the family settled here previous. Simon DeWitt, Judge B. P. Babcock, Jason W. Strevell, A. E. Harding, Jonathan Duff, Charles J. Beattie, Joshua Whitmore and Jesse Ware, Jr., were those who practiced the profession of law in Pontiac over fifty years ago. All are now deceased, with the one exception of A. E. Harding.

Jerome Garner died in 1860, while De Witt followed a few years later. Judge Babcock was a prominent man and more will be learned of him in the history of Esmen Township, of which he was one of the pioneers. Jason W. Strevell, Jonathan Duff, Charles J. Beattie, Joshua Whitmore and Jesse Ware, Jr., have passed away years ago, but they will be heard of at length in the political history of the county, where all took prominent parts in shaping the destiny of Livingston County prior to the Civil War.

Martin Dolde and family arrived in Pontiac from Ottawa in the fall of 1856. Mr. Dolde had just arrived in this country from Germany and was a wagon and carriage maker by trade. He formed a partnership with Samuel Garner and opened a shop, but the firm soon dissolved, Mr. Dolde forming a partnership with H. G. Challis, a blacksmith by trade. The firm continued for several years, when Mr. Challis retired and moved to Topeka, Kas. Mr. Dolde continued in the business for fifty-one years, retiring in 1907. He still resides here, and has held many positions of trust in this city. In 1875 he ran for county treasurer on the Republican ticket, but was defeated by Joseph H. Stitt by the small margin of 34 votes.

9- William Green moved to Pontiac in 1854. He was a young man of ability and being well pro-

vided with money invested the same in land, meanwhile clerking in the store of Cassidy, Ladd & Co. Mr. Green died in 1857. His wife taught select school for many years thereafter and in 1878 was married to Albert Lawrence, familiarly known as "Deacon" Lawrence. She now resides in Chicago.

Among the other young men who arrived in Pontiac during the 50's was James E. Morrow, who came from Ohio in 1858. Mr. Morrow's father had preceded him here and lived on a farm northeast of Pontiac. The young man entered the clothing firm of Greenebaum & Brothers and was afterwards with Cassidy, Ladd & Co. He went overland to California in 1859 with several others from Pontiac, returning in time to enlist with the 129th Illinois Volunteer regiment and served throughout the war. In 1868 he was elected circuit clerk, served as supervisor from Pontiac Township for twenty-one years, was mayor of the city, and in 1874 organized the National Bank of Pontiac, being elected president, holding that position until his death, which occurred in 1898. In 1866 Mr. Morrow married Miss Elizabeth Maxwell, who died in 1872. They are survived by one daughter, Elsie, who now resides in this city.

Peter Hannaman, who came here with his stepfather, Philip Rollins, in 1846, and settled on a farm just east of town, moved into the village in 1856 and started the first bakery, continuing the business with success until the early '80s, when he moved to California, where he still resides.

Mr. Hannaman had no sooner opened up than he had strong competition in the person of Samuel K. Barr, who engaged in the bakery business. Mr. Barr was a genial, whole-souled young man, and besides conducting his bakery was the leading promoter of all the amusement features of the village. He arranged for a great many dances, most of which took place in the court house. He has been dead for many years.

As soon as the Alton was ready for business, Seymour Bennett was appointed station agent, while the company sent a young man by the name of John Chappel from the east to look after the telegraphing and the sale of tickets. He afterwards conducted the Stevens hotel, being in partnership with a gentleman by the name of Kelly. He has been dead long since.

John Chappel remained with the road until about 1860, when he passed away at his home in

New York state. He married a daughter of John Kingore soon after arriving here. Mrs. Chappel later on married R. B. Phillips and is still a resident of Pontiac.

Morris Johnson and family came to Pontiac Township in 1857 and settled on what is now the Babcock farm, northwest of the city. The year following the family moved to town, Mr. Johnson building a store on a lot just south of the American house on North Oak street. He conducted a general store for about four years and then engaged in general trading until he passed away in 1886. He was a prominent and influential citizen and universally respected. Mr. Johnson's widow still survives at the age of 84, while his son, E. M., has always taken a prominent part in the affairs of Pontiac.

Thomas Williams came to Pontiac in 1857 and purchased the mill property from L. Archer. He was a man of push and energy and soon enlarged the plant by building a large mill and replacing the old log dam with one of stone. The splendid mill property was destroyed by fire about twenty-five years ago, but Mr. Williams rebuilt at once, although on somewhat smaller scale.

Ferdinand H. Bond and son, Samuel, arrived here in 1857, coming from the state of Pennsylvania. Mr. Bond was a boot and shoe maker by trade and continued in that line until within a few years of his death, which occurred in 1878. Stephen C. Crane came from the state of Ohio in 1855, although his family did not arrive here until about 1860. He was a man of means and engaged in farming and buying and selling real estate. He was one of the organizers of the Baptist church in the village and before his death, in 1877, accumulated a vast fortune.

John Kingore and family arrived from Indiana in the fall of 1854 and rented the hotel then known as "Buck's tavern." Mr. Kingore's family consisted of his two daughters, Minerva, after whom a hospital in this city was named; Miss Maggie, now Mrs. R. B. Phillips, a son-in-law by the name of Smith, and his wife, and Miss Eliza Houser, who soon afterwards married Edwin R. Maples. They were a valuable addition to the town and kept a good hotel.

The same year came Samuel L. Manker and family from the east, who located on a farm in the township just west of the city. Mr. Manker was a good farmer and in a few years had one of the finest farms in the county, well stocked with one of the best herds of cattle to be seen any-

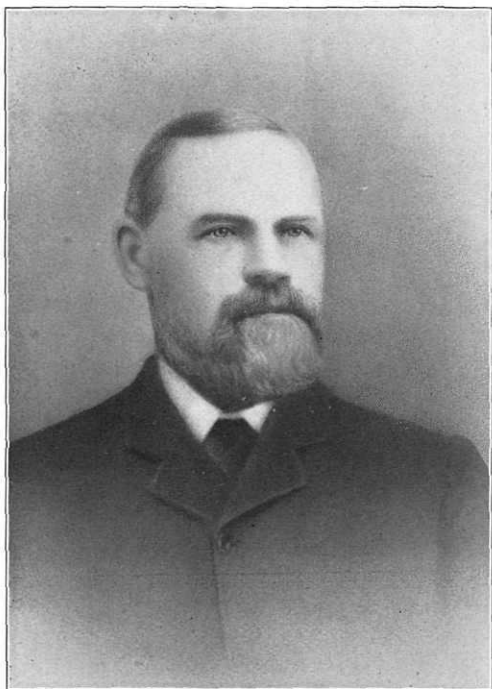
where at that time. He was one of the leading men in organizing the Livingston County Agricultural Society and at one time was its president. Later on the family moved to Missouri, where Mr. Manker died.

Joseph and George Woolverton and their families came in 1857 from Reading Township, where they had located a few years previous. Joseph was elected treasurer that year and came over to take charge of the office, while his brother George went into the dry goods business, the style of the firm being Woolverton Brothers. George Woolverton died here in 1872 and shortly afterwards his brother Joseph moved to Colorado, where he now resides.

George A. Murphy and family came to Pontiac in 1858 from New York, having arrived in this country from County Antrim, Ireland, in 1837. Mr. Murphy was a laborer and when the family arrived here all the children were grown. Miss Margaret married Leander Uttley and Miss Mary married Joseph F. Culver. William J. Murphy, a son, worked as a laborer for some time after coming here, and when the war broke out went to the front. Returning home he became a clerk and soon entered the hardware business with J. W. Strevell, and became a prominent and influential man in Pontiac. He now resides in Arizona. The family were all prominent workers in the Presbyterian church society. The elder Murphy has been dead for over thirty-five years, while his wife was killed while attempting to cross the Alton railroad track by crawling under the cars in 1864.

William Manlove and family came from Ohio in 1856 and settled on a farm adjoining the town-site. Mr. Manlove always took a prominent part in the upbuilding of the community and was a very progressive farmer and stock raiser. He was always interested in the agricultural society and at one time was its president. The family moved from Pontiac to Texas over thirty years ago, where Mr. Manlove died a few years later.

Augustus F. Fisher, a native of Germany, arrived in Pontiac in 1858, and secured work in the lumber yard of William Ellis. He was without means and continued as a laborer until the war broke out, when he enlisted and went to the front in 1862 with the 129th regiment. Returning from the war he resumed his labors in the lumber yard, soon purchasing an interest in the same. Afterwards engaged in the hardware business with H. C. Hobbs and continuing in the lumber



NICHOLAS FROEBE



CAROLINE FROEBE



THEODORE C. FITCH



MARY BURR FITCH

yard. Mr. Fisher was elected mayor of Pontiac in 1877 and served his ward several years as alderman. In 1878, having amassed a fortune, he moved to Chicago, where he now lives in retirement.

Joseph S. Babcock came to Pontiac in 1857 from the state of New York and engaged in the grocery and dry goods trade with E. M. Johnson. He was a man of means and loaned considerable money, but being in poor health retired to a farm northwest of the city, where he died in 1870. His widow, formerly Mary Norton, died at the Babcock homestead about six years ago.

John W. Eagle came to Pontiac Township in 1856 and engaged in farming near the village. He caught the gold fever in 1859 and left at once for Pike's Peak, returning in 1861 with his finances badly shattered. He went to work in Pontiac on his return as a laborer and in after years became deputy sheriff of the county and city marshal of Pontiac. He died in 1908.

George C. Taylor settled on a farm in section 36 in Pontiac Township in 1858. He was reared to manhood in Saratoga Springs, N. Y. Mr. Taylor was a progressive farmer, as the fine farm southeast of this city will attest. During the war, while farm labor was at a premium, he went to Paducah, Ky., and secured about twenty colored people with their families and brought them to Pontiac to till the farms. The colored families thus secured were the first to locate in the county. They arrived in a cattle car over the Alton and while passing through the streets of the village loaded on hay racks with Mr. Taylor at their head the caravan was halted at the southwest corner of the court house square by a number of citizens who threatened him with all sorts of dire trouble if the negroes were not at once returned south. An exciting time was had, but Mr. Taylor won out and landed the colored people safely at his farm, near which they remained until the close of the war. He was always prominent in the township and filled many official positions. Mr. Taylor and his wife are long since dead. His son, John C., came into possession of the farm at his death, and in 1902 disposed of the same and invested the proceeds in Zion City, Ill., where he now resides.

Alfred A. Eylar and family moved to Pontiac Township from the state of Ohio in 1855 and located on a farm south of Pontiac, where he resided until his death, about twenty-five years ago. His son, D. C. Eylar, came to Pontiac in the early

'60s and secured a clerkship in the office of the circuit clerk. When the Livingston County National Bank was organized in 1871 he became assistant cashier, afterwards cashier, and finally president of the bank, serving the corporation faithfully for thirty-five years, resigning in 1908.

William Gore and family came to Livingston County in 1853, settling in Rooks Creek Township, remaining there for three years, when he moved to Pontiac Township, locating on a farm just north of the city limits.

W. C. Babcock and family came from Albany County, New York, and settled on a farm in Pontiac Township in 1856. In a few years he moved to Pontiac and engaged in the hardware and grocery business with his son, Albert. Mr. Babcock died in 1876. His wife, who was a daughter of Albert Lawrence, is also dead. Albert, the only son, now runs a large retail and wholesale hardware store in Billings, Mont. In 1896 he was a candidate for the nomination of governor of Montana before the Republican convention, but failed to secure the prize.

John W. Smith came from Brown County, Ohio, in 1858, and taught school two years in Pontiac, being elected county superintendent in 1861. He resigned to enlist in the Civil War and went to the front with the 129th Illinois Volunteers, being wounded at the battle of Resaca. Returning to Pontiac he engaged in the grocery business for about a year and afterward graduated from the Illinois Normal University. He then engaged in teaching, being principal of the Fairbury schools one year and the Pontiac school four years. With his family he moved to California in 1880.

Joseph F. Culver arrived in Pontiac in 1859 from the state of Ohio, where he was principal of a normal school. He at once entered the office of the county clerk and became deputy. At the breaking out of the civil war he entered the 129th regiment as first lieutenant of Company A, afterwards being promoted to captain. He was elected county judge in 1865, serving four years, afterwards engaging in the loan, real estate and banking business. He was a leader in the Methodist church of Pontiac for years and often occupied the pulpit. Mr. Culver and family left Pontiac in 1880 for Kansas, where he died in 1899, his remains being forwarded to his old home in Pontiac for burial.

James H. Gaff and family settled in Pontiac in 1859, coming from McLean County, to which county he came in 1851. He worked at his trade,

that of a blacksmith, until the breaking out of the war, when he went to the front with the 129th regiment. In 1866 he was elected sheriff of the county, was four years assessor of Pontiac Township, and served a term as postmaster of Pontiac during the administration of President Hayes. In the early days he was one of the leaders in the Methodist church of Pontiac, contributing largely to the maintainance of that organization. Mr. Gaff now holds the office of justice of the peace and during the session of the circuit court acts as bailiff. Although 81 years of age he is quite active.

Leander Utley came from Rhode Island and settled in Pontiac Township in 1865, engaging in farming and the raising of blooded stock, at which he was successful. He was always prominent in the affairs of the Livingston County Agricultural Society fifty years ago and a leader in the Presbyterian church. In the early '80s he moved to Arizona and engaged in the irrigation of a large tract of land with his brother-in-law, William J. Murphy.

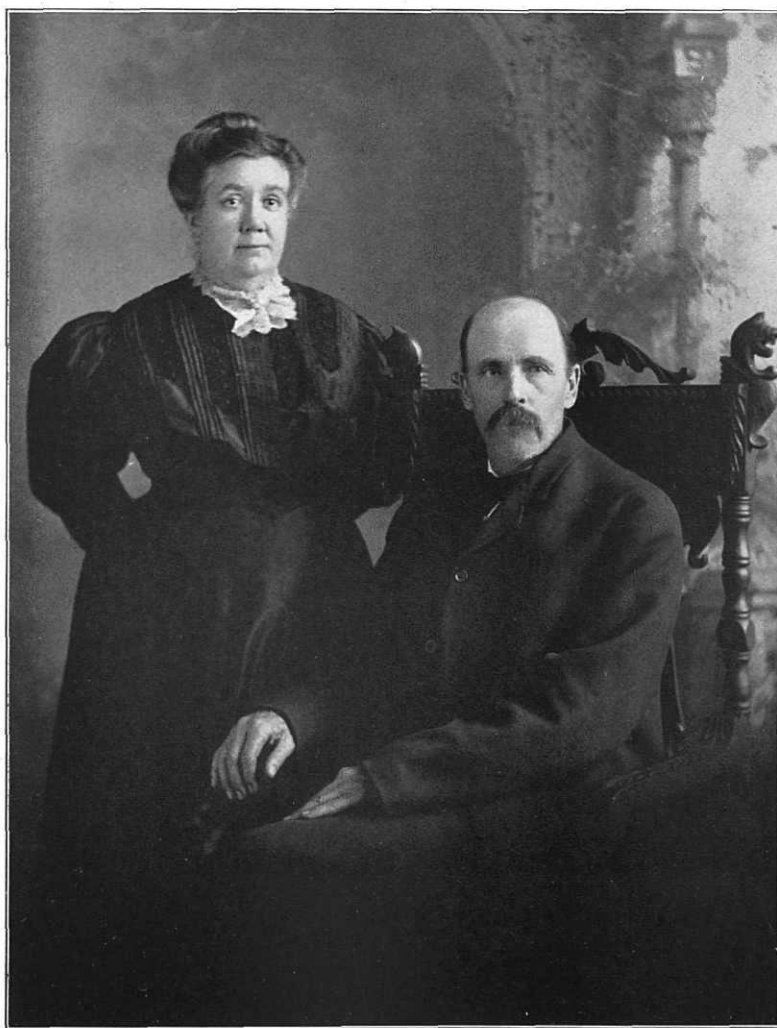
James Cox and family were among the settlers on the prairie of Pontiac Township, arriving in 1853 from the state of Ohio. There were nine children in the family, three of the boys enlisting at the outbreak of the Civil War, two of whom were killed in battle. Mr. Cox removed to Kansas in 1869, where he died in 1884.

While the railroad was building through Pontiac in 1854 there was another recurrence of cholera, which had such an effect on the settlement in 1849, just five years previous. During the summer of 1854 cholera made its appearance in many places throughout the United States and before its spread was checked many thousands were numbered among its victims. The cholera was brought here that season by a young couple just from the east. They stopped at Buck's tavern and two days after their arrival were buried on the knoll northeast of the town. The disease spread through the town and before it could be checked ten others had passed away. Work for a time was suspended on the Alton and for a few weeks gloom settled over the entire community. But this soon disappeared, business was resumed as usual, and in a few weeks the scare was over, and up to this date has not returned.

Previous to this time were many acts of lawlessness committed in and around the townsite. Saloons of a low order were running night and day, little attention being paid to good order. In

the spring of 1855 an indignation meeting was held at the court house, the object of which was to induce the saloons to quit business. Joel H. Dart was elected chairman and Samuel C. Ladd secretary. A committee on resolutions consisting of Nelson Buck, Dr. Darius Johnson and John H. McGregor was appointed by the chair, but the resolutions introduced and adopted by the meeting were of no avail. The saloon keepers paid no attention whatever to the protest of the citizens and continued in business as usual without further molestation for several years later.

In less than a year after the railroad reached Pontiac, J. S. French, a lawyer from Ottawa, published the first newspaper, *The Livingston County News*. The *News* made its first appearance on March 14, 1855. The people of Pontiac at that time were not engrossed in politics to any great extent and the publication was independent, devoted solely to the upbuilding of Pontiac and Livingston County. For some unknown reason the publication of the paper was abandoned within a few months by Mr. French. Shortly afterwards, however, Phillip Cook and M. A. Renoe, two expert newspaper printers, secured control of the little plant and continued to issue the paper until they disposed of it in 1857 to James G. Allbe, a printer from Bloomington. A. E. Harding, who had just arrived in Pontiac at that time, assumed editorial charge of the paper, advocating the election of Stephen A. Douglas to the United States Senate. Having accomplished this, Mr. Harding resigned his position, devoting his whole time to the practice of law. While the *News* was advocating the cause of Douglas, it succeeded in injuring the feelings of several Republicans and Abolitionists in the village and throughout the county, with the result that a stock company was formed at once, the object of which was to publish a paper advocating the election of Abraham Lincoln to the United States Senate. Philip Cook, who had sold his interest in the *News* to Allbe, was secured as editor and William Gagan had charge of the mechanical department. The first number of the *Sentinel* came out on the 9th day of October, 1857, and was Republican to the core. Mr. Cook was a fearless editor and continued at the head of the *Sentinel* until 1860, when he was elected county treasurer. Michael E. Collins then became editor-in-chief and two years later, being elected county treasurer, the *Sentinel* was sold to James Stout and H. S. Decker. Stout became the editor and



MR. AND MRS. DANIEL FUGATE

this firm published the paper during the war. In 1866 Frank Denlow secured a half interest in the Sentinel, but soon sold out to Mr. Stout, who continued sole owner until removing from the village in 1869.

Prior to November 15, 1857, all the services of the Protestant denomination were held in the old court house or at the private homes of the members of the different faiths. The Livingston County Bible Society was organized in 1850, and shortly thereafter a little band of Methodists got together and held services, while the Presbyterians and Christians were not long in organizing.

On the date above mentioned the Presbyterian church was dedicated, Rev. I. T. Whittemore being the pastor in charge. Rev. L. H. Loss of Joliet, who for several years previous to that time had come here at intervals to preach to the members of that belief, delivered the dedicatory sermon, the newspaper of that day were evidently a little slow in making mention of this important occasion. Not until one month after the building was dedicated did the news gatherer of the Sentinel become aware of the fact. In its issue of December 11, 1857, that paper had this to say in regard to the dedication: "The Presbyterian Church of Pontiac was dedicated a few weeks since, the sermon on the occasion being delivered by Rev. Mr. Loss of Joliet. It was an oversight in not mentioning it at the time. The church is a large and beautiful edifice, and will answer for the congregation for years to come. We understand the edifice cost about \$3,000. A choir discourses music on all proper occasions, reminding one of his eastern home."

At the same time the Presbyterians were building their edifice the Methodists were likewise engaged and in less than one month's time, on December 13, 1857, the Methodist church was dedicated. In speaking of this important event the Sentinel says:

"The Methodist Church in Pontiac was dedicated on Sunday last, with the solemnity due such an occasion. The Pioneer of the West, Elder Hall, preached the sermon, after which a collection was taken up to clear the building from debt. Five hundred and seventy-five dollars were raised in a short time, and without the least trouble, which is said to be sufficient to clear the edifice from all encumbrances. The citizens of Pontiac and vicinity deserve great credit for their willingness to assist in erecting places of worship, as

many have paid out the hundreds to accomplish this object. The melodeon, in skillful hands, with a well-trained choir, added much to the occasion. Pontiac is fast improving, as the public edifices fully attest."

Dr. J. M. Perry, William Perry, John Powell, Wilson Hull, Robert Sample and their wives were numbered among the early organizers of the Christian Church in Pontiac. Irregular services were held in the court house in the early '50s by the members of that faith who listened to the preaching of Rev. Washington Houston, a pioneer preacher and missionary of that church assigned to this section. Not until 1865 did the members of this church erect a house of worship and secure a regular minister.

Catholic services were held at the different homes of the members of that faith in Pontiac in an early day, the worshipers being notified in advance of the coming of the priest, who was assigned to the whole county. In Pontiac mass was usually celebrated at the homes of Michael McCabe and William Cleary by Fathers Hurley, Kennedy, Sherry, Cahill and Lonegran, who were sent out by the bishop of the diocese of Chicago, from Joliet, Ottawa, Bloomington and Morris. Often members of the Catholic faith in Pontiac would journey to Joliet, Morris, Bloomington and Wilmington to attend church, and many of the bodies of the early settlers of the Catholic faith in Pontiac now repose in the cemeteries of these places, the church not being organized and owning a plot for this purpose.

Rev. Frederick Ketcham was the first minister of the Baptist faith to locate permanently in Pontiac, although previous to his coming a few members of that denomination would hold services in the school house or court house as occasion would permit. Not until 1865, however, was a permanent house of worship erected and dedicated.

Soon after the court house was completed in 1842 meetings of a religious nature were held there until the churches were erected. All branches of the Protestant faith would assemble there, which resulted in time in joint discussions between the different leaders of the sects then represented in regard to the teachings of their church. These joint debates among the settlers probably accounts for the slow progress had in the erection of suitable houses of worship in Pontiac. Many of the early settlers of the different counties and towns in Illinois were settlers from the east, many colonies being formed for this

purpose, which were altogether of a religious nature. The first act of a colony, after the erection of their homes, was to build a suitable house of worship. No colony of any kind ever settled in Pontiac, the settlers being members of all different church denominations known at that time, while quite a number, it would seem, had never been afforded religious social training whatever.

VILLAGE OF PONTIAC ORGANIZED.

The first meeting looking to the incorporation of Pontiac into a village was held at the court house on the 2nd day of February, 1856, notice of such intention being published in the Livingston County News of January 17, 1856.

The meeting was organized by electing Nelson Buck chairman and John Chappel clerk. They were duly sworn in, the oath being administered by George W. Boyer, clerk of the circuit court.

The following resolution was introduced by Jason W. Strevell: "That we, the citizens of Pontiac, do now incorporate ourselves into a little body politic in order that we may more fully avail ourselves of the privileges guaranteed to like bodies by the statutes for such cases made and provided."

The question being put upon the resolution the following vote of the residents of the town and legal voters present at the meeting was taken *viva voce*:

For Incorporation Samuel C. Ladd, George W. Boyer, Seymour Bennett, Z. G. Walling, Jason W. Strevell, Z. H. Nettleton, Henry Jones, A. G. Pratt, E. C. Jones, William Ellis, George Bishop, E. J. Barylette, R. B. Martin, D. Sweeney, George S. Olmstead, J. H. Babcock, H. H. Norton, John W. Youmans, A. Scott, Elias Corey, Philip Cook, Carlton Durfee, Simeon DeWitt, S. B. Nichols, M. A. Renoe, A. S. Tracey, J. M. Perry, William Brennan, H. G. Challis, R. Showalter, Philip Rollins, Thomas Kelly, A. Stevens, Thomas Crosswell, Ira Loveless, Nelson Buck, J. B. Hulsey and John W. Chappel.—38.

Against Incorporation.—Jacob Streamer, Z. Archer and Darius Johnson.—3.

The above was certified to the clerk of the court and a call was issued to the citizens of Pontiac to meet at the court house on February 12, 1856, for the purpose of electing five trustees for the village. The meeting was called to order by Nelson Buck and the following votes were cast for members of the board of trustees:

Jason W. Strevell, 29; Nelson Buck, 36; Philip

Rollins, 17; Z. N. Nettleton, 21; Samuel C. Ladd, 24; J. W. Youmans, 11; Charles M. Lee, 1; Henry Jones, 33; George W. Boyer, 3; Simeon De Witt, 2; A. G. Pratt, 1; J. M. Terry, 2; J. Streamer, 1; J. R. Garner, 1; J. B. Hulsey, 1.

Nelson Buck, Henry Jones, Samuel C. Ladd, Jason W. Strevell, and Z. H. Nettleton having the highest number of votes were declared duly elected and the meeting adjourned.

The first meeting of the trustees of the village of Pontiac was held in the court house on February 16, 1857, for the purpose of organization and the election of president of the board. Henry Jones was elected president, receiving three votes to one each for Nelson Buck and S. C. Ladd.

On the 18th of February the board met and were duly sworn in by Ira Loveless, a justice of the peace, and proceeded to the transaction of business.

The first motion before the trustees was that a committee be appointed by the president to inquire into the practicability of laying down sidewalk previous to the settling of the ground and to draft by-laws.

Joel H. Dart was elected clerk and treasurer; Philip Rollins was elected street commissioner, and Joseph Virgin, constable. Jonathan Duff was appointed assessor and collector.

Each member of the board was appointed a committee to draft ordinances and the meeting adjourned.

About June 1, 1856, a public meeting was held at the court house for the purpose of securing a cemetery for the village. A committee of citizens consisting of Jerome P. Garner, James Stout, Charles M. Lee, Samuel C. Ladd and Darius Johnson were appointed at the meeting to confer with the board of trustees in relation to securing this much needed convenience. J. W. Strevell was appointed a committee of one to confer with the town committee, with the result that five acres of ground were purchased of Henry W. Stevens of St. Charles, Ill., for this purpose. The price was \$20 per acre, the ground selected being part of the present site of the Pontiac city cemetery. In December, 1857, the ground was laid off into lots and blocks, and on the 15th of December of the same year the new cemetery was opened to the public.

For twenty years previous to this date the inhabitants of Pontiac had been very careless in burying their dead. Bodies were buried on residence lots not over three blocks from the square,

but as soon as the cemetery was opened these were taken up and reburied there. Most of the early settlers were buried on a knoll in the northeast part of town and quite a few were buried in a crab apple thicket on the banks of the Vermilion, near where the Pontiac shoe manufacturing plant now stands. No slab or stone ever marked their graves, and in time they were entirely lost sight of and remain so to this day. In after years the cemetery was enlarged by the purchase of land from Livingston County Agricultural Board. The plot now contains about thirteen acres, and in a few years will have to be closed, as the lots are for the most part either occupied or sold.

About the only question of importance to come up before the village trustees after their organization was the sale of intoxicating liquors, the building of sidewalks and the drainage of the big slough just north of the original townsite. The local politics of the town consisted almost wholly in this question, and the two factions were about evenly divided. Part of the time the license party elected the board, while at other times the anti-license party held the reins of government. Bitter feeling prevailed until in 1865 was adopted the Princeton Charter, which prohibited not only the sale of liquors but restrained the trustees from granting any authority whatever to saloon keepers to offer liquor for sale. The charter was only satisfactory to its friends in so far as they were enabled to elect men on the board of trustees who would enforce its provisions to the letter of the law. Liquor was always sold, if not in one way in another, and the question was never settled.

When the new board took hold there was not a sidewalk in town except those laid by the business men around the square. Money was scarce and there was insufficient funds in the treasury for local improvements. It was proposed to build a sidewalk from the Chicago & Alton depot to the court house square and tax the abutting property owners with one-half of the cost. This met with decided objection on the part of the property owners, but the measure passed the board. The sidewalk was not built until long afterwards and other improvements of a like character were slow in being made all over the city, the citizens preferring to wade in the mud rather than defray half the cost of the improvement.

The drainage of the slough was a bone of contention for many years. Public meetings were

held to discuss the matter and the board was petitioned to take some action in the premises, but it was always decided to postpone actual work on the same and the slough was never thoroughly drained out until about twenty years later.

From 1837 until 1860 the settlement of Pontiac was slow, the census of 1860 giving the village a population of 728, five of whom were colored. Many new arrivals came before the breaking out of the war, among whom were William B. Lyon and family, Captain H. B. Reed, John Schneider and Harvilla Bennett. Soon after the breaking out of the war the population diminished rapidly, two full companies being enlisted in Pontiac alone. Besides these many went to Chicago, St. Louis and Ottawa to enlist, and in the fall of 1862, when the 129th regiment left for the front, the village was almost deserted and remained so until the close of the war in the spring of 1865. When the 129th left they were presented with a beautiful flag by the patriotic ladies of the county, the exercises being held in the court house yard. It was a gala day in Pontiac and the square was crowded with the wives and sweethearts of the young soldiers who assembled to bid them good-bye. The presentation speech was made by Mrs. I. G. Mott, and the proceedings were enlivened by the Pontiac Cornet band. The war being over, the soldiers returned and at once settled down to active toil and the upbuilding of the village. True, many who went to the front never returned, but their places were taken by new arrivals who came here during the 60's, prominent among whom were William B. Fyfe, O. F. Pearre, N. J. Pillsbury, S. O. Pillsbury, F. F. Post, John C. Winans, Thomas J. Rankin, Joseph P. Turner, Dr. J. J. Stites, James A. Caldwell, Dr. J. W. Filkins, C. C. Strawn, John Egan, John W. Bruner, S. Ricketson, Samuel Huber, John D. Honeywell, William H. Jenkins, James Nelson, Patrick Murphy, Clark E. Legg, James Siner, John W. Woodrow, Clawson R. Waters, Samuel and W. F. Denslow, S. S. Lawrence, J. B. Tyler, Dr. T. C. Hartshorn, W. S. Lacey, Lewis G. Goodspeed, John H. Hewiat, Dr. H. H. Townsend, Thomas Wing, R. B. Harrington, Henry Milke, Charles Culver, L. E. Payson.

In 1865 the village began to boom to some extent. Some of the leading citizens, among whom were Stephen C. Crane, John Dehner, Thomas Wing and Jonathan Duff, organized a company, the object of which was to sink a coal shaft. The capital stock was in the neighborhood of

\$50,000, all of which was taken in Pontiac. Coal was discovered at a depth of 175 feet and soon after this the stock went up to double its face value. This vein was worked for some time and the next year the second vein was reached at a depth of 368 feet. Shortly after this the buildings were destroyed by fire, resulting in a loss of over \$15,000. Again they were rebuilt, only to be destroyed by fire, and a few years later the Pontiac Coal Company had gone out of existence, the stockholders losing all the money invested. At one time 100 miners were employed at this shaft. In 1871 the mine was sold to Frantz, Bullock & Campbell of Minonk, who afterwards lost heavily in operating the mine.

In 1866 business was thriving and during this year Messrs Duff & Cowan opened the first bank in the village and met with success. Next year came the Pontiac Woolen Mills. This enterprise was inaugurated by a joint stock company of which John Powell was president and Jonathan Duff was treasurer. The mill had a capacity of about 800 yards per day, besides the yarn it spun. The building and machinery cost about \$35,000 and when it closed down twenty-five hands were employed at good wages. Job E. Dye was superintendent and manager. After the failure of the bank, in 1870, the mill was closed, never to open again as a woolen mill. Some years later the building was used as a flouring mill and soon afterwards was destroyed by fire.

Pontiac had been without a band for several years and in 1869 one was organized, the citizens contributing \$350 therefor. The following were the chief musicians: Simon Brucker, William Wells, Henry Greenebaum, John W. Daman, Charles A. McGregor, James E. Morrow, George E. Pittenger, Peter Johnson, C. L. Downey, F. H. Bond, Al Harris and Albert Babcock.

Soon after the organization of the band a public meeting was held at the court house for the purpose of organizing a base ball club, the first one in the village. L. E. Payson was elected president; Byron Phelps, secretary, and James E. Morrow, treasurer; executive committee, L. E. Payson, C. J. Beattie; Byron Phelps, J. E. Morrow and Dr. Samuel Stewart. The following is a list of the players: First nine—E. M. Johnson, captain; S. S. Herbert, Thomas Liston. William Cleland and D. C. Eylar. Second nine—Captain, Byron Phelps; J. C. Wheeler, David McFarlane, Ralph Gregory, J. H. Garner, Hugh

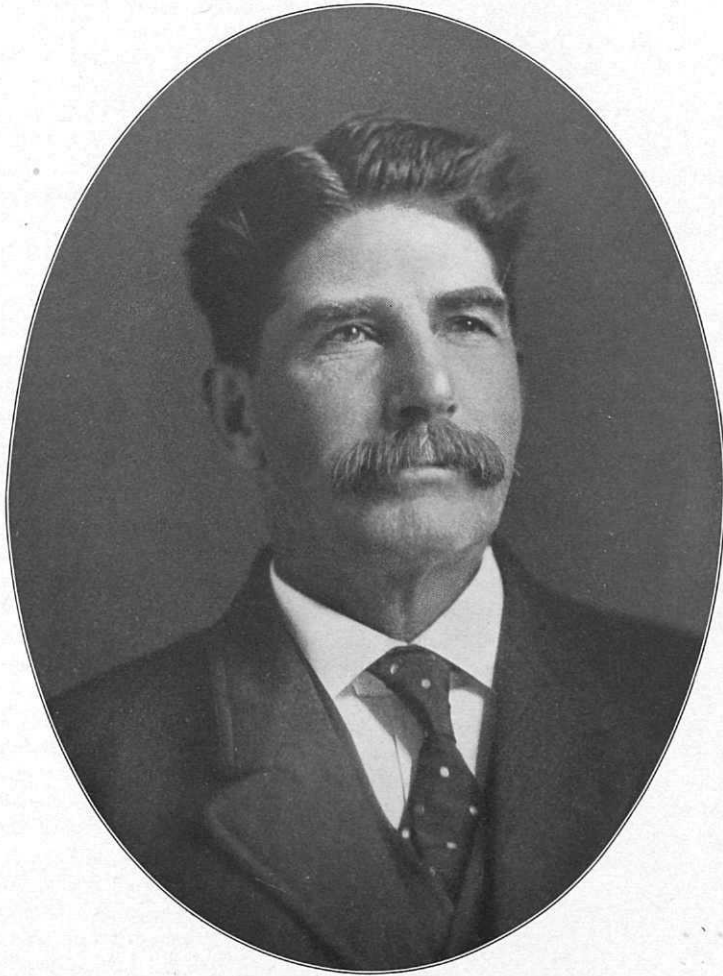
L. Miller, Charles Babcock, A. E. Perry and Robert Fox.

The citizens of Pontiac took great pride in both these organizations, more especially the latter. At that time they furnished the people of the county with amusements during the summer season, and their matched games were attended by people from all over the county. Business in Pontiac was entirely suspended for the afternoon to the day of the game.

During the summer of 1869 the reform school was building in Pontiac, and the Fairbury, Pontiac & Northwestern Railroad was approaching the village from Streator. Many men were employed in the construction of these two great institutions and times were good and money plentiful. Franz Steinback had also erected a large brewery just south of the Alton railroad bridge across the tracks and was doing a flourishing business. Soon after the brewery started the city authorities made trouble for the brewery people. The Princeton Charter, under which Pontiac was then sailing, prohibited the sale of liquors outside and within three miles of the corporation. Under this the brewery people were brought into court and after several years of costly litigation the supreme court held the provisions of the charter constitutional and for a time the brewery was compelled to close down, resulting in a heavy loss. A few years later the brewery closed down and later on all the buildings were destroyed by fire.

Previous to 1869 Pontiac was what in these days would be called a "Mudhole proper." During this year the village authorities began to pay some attention to the streets, especially those around the court house square and the principal ones leading thereto. The streets were drained in most cases by deep ditches running to the river, the center of the street being laid with broken stone from the quarry on the farm of Joseph S. Babcock. This stone piking lasted for several years and a few years later Pontiac was credited with having the best streets of any town of its size in the state, a position which it maintains today.

On Wednesday, June 14, the Fairbury, Pontiac & Northwestern railroad reached Pontiac and there was great rejoicing. The people turned out with the big cannon, accompanied by the cornet band, and celebrated the occasion with a good will. Congratulatory speeches were made by C. C. Strawn, J. F. Culver, J. A. Fellows, A. H.



Marion Gallup

Brower, Captain Payne, W. T. Ament, S. S. Lawrence, John J. Taylor and J. L. Marsh and others. In 1869 the people of Pontiac Township, by a vote of 374 to 6, authorized the issuance of \$50,000 in bonds to this company, now the Wabash. These bonds resulted in considerable litigation to the people of the township, but were eventually paid.

September 11th, 1872, Pontiac was organized as a city by the election of Rufus W. Babcock as the first mayor and A. W. Cowan city clerk; F. C. Brown, William H. Cleland, Martin Dolde, Lester E. Kent, William Perry and Charles Gross, aldermen. An important measure, adopted that year, has had a marked effect upon the appearance of the city, rendering it, at the same time, more substantial and handsome than it otherwise would have been. The council passed an ordinance known as the "fire limits law," which prevented the erection of wooden buildings in a prescribed district. The result of this has been that the new buildings about the square are all of brick, making it not only much more solid, but adding greatly to its fine appearance.

During the years 1872-73 Pontiac took a sudden boom as regards the building of substantial business blocks. Prior to that time the business buildings around the square were all, with one exception, constructed of wood, with a large portico in front reaching to the end of the sidewalk. These were destroyed by fire or moved away to make room for larger and more commodious brick buildings, which were constructed during this time.

What was most needed at this time was a good hotel, and at a meeting of the citizens of Pontiac called for that purpose, Thomas Williams and Stephen C. Crane made a proposition to erect a substantial three-story brick building providing the citizens would raise a donation of \$4,000. This was done in one day and Messrs. Crane and Williams at once started the erection of the Phoenix hotel. It was completed and ready for occupancy on October 1, 1873, and cost, furnished, nearly \$40,000.

Dr. J. W. Filkins, Edward Bertram, Lawrence & Pillsbury, S. H. Young, W. S. Lacey, J. W. Hoover, and George W. Bay constructed substantial two-story and basement brick buildings on the remaining lots in the block, which at that date were considered the finest in this section of the state. This block, together with the court

house, was destroyed by fire on the 4th of July, 1874, but was again rebuilt. Since that time, however, three of the stores were remodeled and rebuilt by Mr. C. W. Sterry, making one of the finest office and store buildings in the county.

The building at the corner of Mill and Madison streets was built by Joseph F. Culver. Adjoining this building on the west William B. Lyon, William Garner and Morris Johnson erected their two-story brick buildings, while just to the north Caldwell & McGregor and John W. Benham built three substantial buildings, which are still standing.

Caldwell & McGregor, J. W. Strevell and William B. Lyon also completed the building of three elegant store rooms north of the square, fronting on Madison street, which are still standing.

Many substantial and beautiful residences were erected during these two years at an estimated cost of over \$250,000.

From 1875 until 1900 the erection of buildings around the square and on Madison and Mill streets, the principal streets leading thereto, was slow, but sure, and five years ago the last wooden structure, the Mossholder home, was moved away to make room for a substantial brick structure. The public library building was erected in 1893, followed seven years later by the city hall. Both of these buildings were substantial additions to the city, and greatly enhanced the value of adjacent property.

The first electric light introduced in Pontiac was in the fall of 1882, by the Thomson-Houston Electric Company. The plant was located in the old woolen mill. Only arc lights were used and the court house square was thronged on the evening they were first turned on from the court house dome. Samuel Bond was the chief electrician, and from that date down to the present time Pontiac has used this mode of lighting the streets. A few business houses installed the lights and the Thomson-Houston Company disposed of their plant to a local company the following year. The local company installed the first incandescent machine in January, 1889, and a few months later their plant was ruined by the explosion of a boiler in which two men were killed, and the plant was sold at sheriff's sale. Henry A. Foster and Mrs. Kate Dimick were the purchasers. Mrs. Dimick was represented by W. H. Fursman and under their management the plant was continued until 1892, when the new company went into the hands of a receiver. In

November of this year the plant was purchased at receiver's sale by Henry C. Jones and Henry A. Foster. These gentlemen continued to operate the plant with success until November, 1899, when they disposed of their interest to James A. Carothers. Mr. Carothers had large financial means at his command and soon added to his holdings by installing the heating and gas plants. Mr. Carothers was also the prime mover in the Interurban railway, and invested more in public utilities in Pontiac than any one man or company since the town was laid out in 1837. His death, which occurred in February, 1908, leaves a vacancy which will be hard to replace.

In 1899 the first buildings of the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company were completed and the work of making shoes in Pontiac commenced.

In 1890 the present sewer system was started by the construction of the main sewer on North street, draining the slough, which had caused so much trouble to the people ever since the townsite was located in 1837. Since that time the sewer has been extended farther east, reclaiming valuable property, the whole bed of the slough now being occupied by some of the best dwelling houses to be seen in the city. The sewer system is now altogether inadequate for the growing city and will soon have to be enlarged. The next year came the system of water works, followed in 1896 by the laying of the first brick pavement. Now all the leading thoroughfares in the city are paved, making it the finest looking city of its size in Illinois.

From the opening of the first school in the court house in Pontiac, in 1843, until 1867 school facilities were meager. Many times during this period not enough room for the accommodation of over half the children of a school age was provided. Since 1867 extensive improvements along this line have been made until today Pontiac is the leading educational center of Livingston County, having four well appointed public school buildings, besides the township high school, and the parochial school in connection with the St. Mary's church.

Josiah Ross and family came from Ohio in 1857 and brought the Eylar farm south of Pontiac, where they remained for one year, then moving into Pontiac. Mr. Ross' family consisted of two boys, Oliver P., since deceased; Richard, who now resides in Pontiac; Miss Kate, now Mrs. Tilden Houseworth; Miss Matilda J., now Mrs. Wallace Lord, and Miss Ellen, who died here

about twenty-five years ago. The family were a good acquisition to the village, and in the early days were always prominent in everything that went for the betterment of the place.

Shortly after the Alton railroad opened for business in Pontiac came William Wall, who had just arrived from England. Mr. Wall started the first dray line in Pontiac and in a few years disposed of the business to a boy by the name of Ebenezer Calkins. Wall engaged in the saloon and hotel business and soon became the owner of the Washington hotel, which he conducted for years with success, and where he now resides, although the building has not been used for a hotel for twenty years. Calkins is still engaged in the dray business and is well supplied with this world's goods, is a good citizen and universally respected.

READING TOWNSHIP.

This township was first inhabited just after the close of the Black Hawk War, the early settlers locating in the timber on the banks of the Vermillion river. The township is well supplied with small streams. Previous to 1858, what is now Reading and a small part of Long Point were known as the Reading precinct, but all that portion of Town 30, Range 3, west of the Vermillion, and all of Town 30, Range 3, were set off by the commissioners as a separate precinct or political township. Three small villages are located in Reading—Ancona, Reading and Coalville—all on the Santa Fe road. A branch of the Chicago & Alton road passes through section 6. An addition to Streator is laid out in the northeast corner of section 3. Here many of the coal mines are located, the men employed at the shafts being principally of foreign birth. Politically, Reading Township is placed in the Republican column.

Daniel Barickman and family, consisting of his wife, five sons, James, Upton, Jacob, Benjamin and Daniel, and daughters, Harriet and Mary, left their home in Adams County, this state, and making the journey in a large prairie schooner drawn by oxen, located on the banks of the Vermillion river on what is now section 30, in the fall of 1832. His first purchase of land was 240 acres on which he erected his cabin. No sign of civilization was visible. Deserted Indian wigwams were still standing in the timber, and there was nothing but the Indian tract and the path made



Mellie K. Gallup

by the deer as they came out of the timber. The country around him was an unbroken wilderness, and he could scarcely look out from the door without seeing wolves or deer. He erected a log school house on his farm at an early day and employed a man named Button as teacher. His sons, upon attaining their majority, also owned farms in the township. In 1841 he was elected county commissioner.

In August, 1833, Jacob Moon and his sons, Rees, Albert and Thomas, and daughter, Margaret, settled in the timber on the banks of the Vermillion river, in what is to this day known as Moon's Point. This was the year after the Black Hawk War. In 1839 the elder Moon was elected county treasurer. He was also a member of the first grand jury in 1838, although from the court records we are unable to learn whether or not this body transacted any business. Albert Moon in 1838 was elected one of the three county commissioners, and held the office for two years.

Matthias J. Ross settled here in 1835. He was clerk of the first election in Bayou precinct, held at the house of Alexander McMillan in Rooks Creek Township. On September 4, 1837, he was appointed clerk of the county commissioners' court. He served one year, the records being kept by C. H. Perry of Pontiac, but continued to reside in this township. The county officials decided he was not eligible to hold the office, as the law required that officer to reside at the county seat. On June 5, 1838, the court made an order that "the above facts appearing, it is ordered that M. I. Ross be removed for this cause and for no other," whereupon Dr. James S. Munson, who was living in Pontiac, was duly appointed to fill the vacancy. Ross continued to reside here until his death.

Joseph Pope became a settler in 1841, bringing his wife and three children. He was justice of the peace for several years. He died in 1847. John Smith came in 1846, remained one year, and then located in Newtown Township. William Graham arrived in 1848. He came from Ireland to America in 1838 and participated in the Black Hawk War. He was married the following year to Mrs. Mary Smith, who died a few months later of milk sickness. Ephraim S. Clark arrived in December, 1850, from Bureau County, this state, and located on Section 27, where the village of Ancona now stands. In the fall of 1852 he purchased another tract, paying for it with a land warrant procured from a neighbor, which was

issued for services rendered as a ranger during the Black Hawk War. He served twenty-six years as school director, six years as town trustee, and also served as assessor and justice of the peace. L. H. Mallery and Levi Clay came here the same year. Mallery remained but a few months, when he returned to New York state. He became a permanent settler in 1852. He enlisted in the 44th Illinois Volunteer Infantry in July, 1861. He was in the service three years and three months, and was in the battle of Pea Ridge, Corinth, Chickamauga and Chattanooga, and was taken prisoner at Murfreesboro, Tenn. After the war, he became postmaster, was elected supervisor, town clerk and justice of the peace. He laid out the village of Coalville, where he owned a coal mine. He also operated a sawmill and conducted a grocery store. Clay came here in December, having lived for two years previous in Newtown Township. He served in the Mexican and Civil Wars. Claudius H. Hart arrived about this time, claiming to be the sixth settler. He held various township offices. Among others who located this year were Jeremiah and Caleb Mathis, Jacob and William Bussard and David Boyle. The latter and Caleb Mathis laid out the village of Reading in 1851. Boyle and Jeremiah Mathis conducted the first store in the village. Zachariah Walter and George A. Defenbaugh came in 1851. The latter was the village blacksmith. Elijah Defenbaugh, William B. Lyon and R. W. Hick were among the arrivals in 1852. Mr. Defenbaugh came here from Ross County, Ohio, it taking him four weeks to drive across the country. He helped to haul ties for the first railroad built through the township, and his wife spun wool and made clothes for the family. Although his taxes were but \$1.25 the next year after his arrival, at the time of his death, December 19, 1886, he owned 1,200 acres of land. His remains were buried in the cemetery bearing his name. Mr. Lyon was a native of Clinton County, Ohio. He formed a partnership with Jacob Bussard and they opened a general store in the village of Reading. They afterwards dissolved and each carried on the business independently. He was the first school treasurer of the township and served as collector. He was elected sheriff in 1854, moved to Pontiac, and later engaged in business with his son, D. M. Lyon. Richard W. Hick came from Kendall County, this state. In 1858 he was elected to the legislature. J. C. Mills came in 1853, remained

two years, and then moved to Iowa. After a year's residence there, he returned to this township. He was afterward elected supervisor, assessor, collector and school treasurer. Daniel Mills and sons, John W., Joshua and Thomas, came in 1854. They were natives of Ohio. John W. Mills held the office of supervisor, collector, assessor, school treasurer and school trustee. He still resides here. John C. Wickery and John Arnold came the same year. The former was a plasterer and in 1863 removed to Pontiac. David Rice, then a young man, came the following year. Daniel S. Reed arrived in 1856. He located first at Ancona, where he engaged in blacksmithing, later removed to the farm. Among others who settled in the '50s were Samuel Higbee, W. W. Critten, William McKinley, Samuel H. Bradford, A. H. Boyd, John Gumm, Orson Shackelton, Joseph Woolverton, Samuel Maxwell, J. S. R. Overholt, Christopher Brazie, Samuel Woolverton, Hugh Grant, Amos Hart, C. R. Kyser, J. M. Black, M. F. Overholt, A. J. Hoskins, Samuel Defenbaugh, Andrew Defenbaugh, John Defenbaugh, Samuel Thompson and S. Martin. Maxwell was elected county treasurer in 1861. He removed to Missouri in 1867. Joseph Woolverton was elected county treasurer in 1857. In 1876 he removed to Colorado. Amos Hart was elected sheriff in 1864. He later removed to California.

Among those who came in the '60s were Henry Semans, Christian Riss, M. Tombaugh, August Kaminke, Alex Patterson, William Reed, George Sixt, J. L. Tombaugh, Silas Coe, John Wesseling, William Wilson, Johnson Bradley, C. Wulzen, A. J. Bosserman, Girard Fordyce.

The first school was in a log building at Moon's Point. In 1856 two other buildings were erected, one in the village of Reading and the other in the Barickman settlement, attended by 110 scholars. The following year, a school house was erected in Ancona and one near the Woolverton's. The teachers were then paid \$47.50 per month.

Independence Day was celebrated here in 1858 by the different Sabbath schools of Ancona, Long Point and Long Point church. They met at the Reading school and marched to the grove. After prayer by Rev. B. Presson, and music by the band, N. M. Reeder read the Declaration of Independence. Addresses were made by Joshua Whittemore of Pontiac, and Rev. R. P. Hoge and D. S. Byers of Mud Creek. The president of the day was William B. Lyon.

VILLAGE OF READING.

The village of Reading was surveyed and platted for David Boyle and Caleb Mathis, in 1851, from the southeast quarter of section 15, and these gentlemen erected the first store room. Among the early merchants were Jacob Bussard and William B. Lyon, who formed a partnership and carried a stock of general merchandise. Caleb Mathis built and conducted the first hotel. The village has not increased much since then. At the present time there is only a general store, in which the post office is located, and a grain elevator. A Methodist Protestant church is located in the village. The Santa Fe road runs through the town.

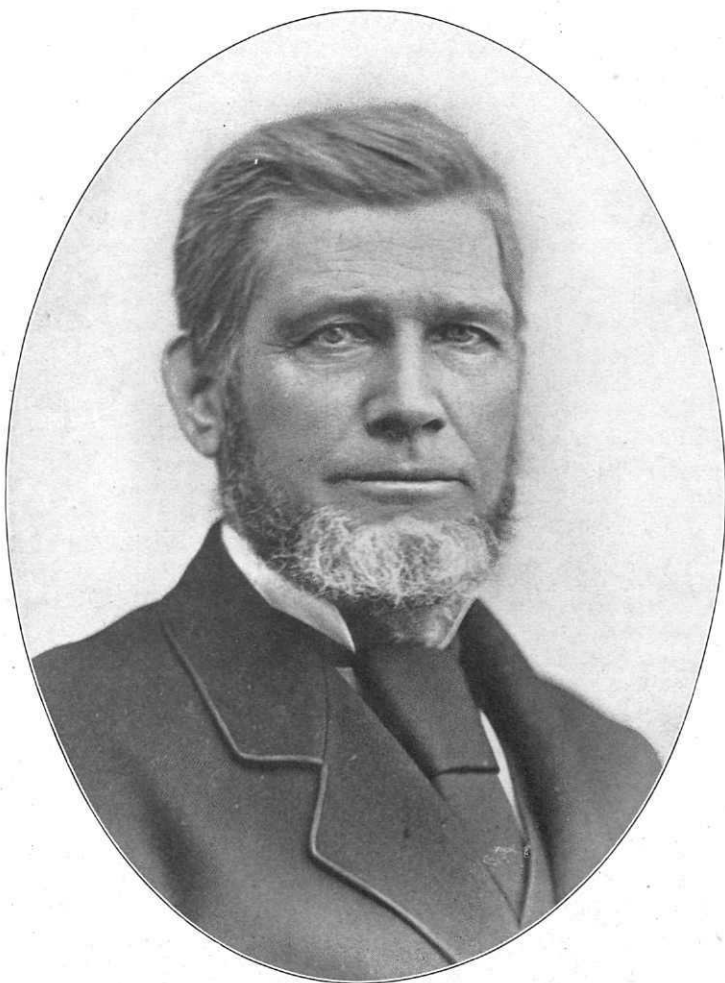
VILLAGE OF ANCONA.

Ancona was laid out in 1854. Orson and Benjamin Shackelton conducted the first store, William Boatman was proprietor of the hotel, and C. R. Kyser opened the first blacksmith shop. Erastus Loomis built a flouring mill in 1857, but it was removed several years later. The town at present has about fifty inhabitants. There are two general stores, a blacksmith shop, and two elevators in the village. A Christian church is located here. The Santa Fe road runs through the town.

ROOKS CREEK TOWNSHIP.

This township adjoins Pontiac Township on the west. It is one of the best watered townships in the county, being crossed by Scattering Point creek in its western part, by Rooks creek through the eastern and central portions, and by the Vermilion river in the northeast corner. The eastern and northern portion of the township were well timbered in the early days.

The first settler in the township was Frederick Rook, who came here with his family from Towanda Township, McLean County, in the early part of December, 1830, a few weeks before the deep snow, and located his claim in the timber five miles west of Pontiac. He was what is commonly called a "Pennsylvania Dutchman." There were but two other settlers in the county when he arrived—V. M. Darnall and Isaac Jordon. The township was named after him, as was also the creek which flows through the eastern part of the township. He remained on his claim until 1835, when he sold it to



Joseph Gallup

Robert Breckenridge, and moved on Section 35, in Amity Township, now known as the Algee farm, and later moved to Missouri.

In the spring of 1831, three families—Hill, Kincaid and Moxley—settled on the east side of Rooks creek, remaining but a few months and then left for parts unknown. While here, Mrs. Hill died, although it is unknown where her body was buried. This was the first death in the township.

Garrett M. Blue became a permanent settler the same year, his family consisting of his wife and several children. He was a native of Virginia, but came here from Ohio. His daughter, Keziah, was the first birth in the township, and the marriage of his daughter, May, to Lemme Barrett, was the first nuptial event in the settlement. Mr. Blue erected the first grist mill in the township. It was run by horse-power. The bolting was done by tacking a yard of fine muslin on a frame, and through this was rubbed by hand small portions of the crushed wheat. He was elected sheriff in 1840. The first deed filed for record in the county was from Benjamin Darnall to Mr. Blue, conveying the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 14 (then in McLean County), the instrument bearing date October 15, 1836, and the consideration \$100. Mr. Blue remained on his claim until 1836, when he removed to another locality in the township, and later to Pontiac. Mr. Blue, his wife and two brothers, the wife of another and the child of another, died of cholera in Pontiac in 1849.

John Johnson was the next settler, coming here in 1833. He was born in Ontario County, New York, and came to Shawneetown, this state, in 1821. He moved from there to McLean County, and from there to here. His family for several months occupied the cabin with Mr. Blue, and remained there until the crops were gathered. That winter he selected a claim and built a cabin. He stated on several occasions before his death in the 80's, that he and his sons had killed over 1,000 deer within the limits of the county. In the fall of 1834, they killed seventy-five head and took the skins and hams to Ottawa, and received for them \$60, a large amount of money in those days. The first twenty years of his residence he engaged in wagon-making in connection with farming.

The next settlers were Robert and Murrell Breckenridge, who arrived in 1835. The former

had been in the township the year previous, having purchased Mr. Rook's claim, and returned to Ohio for his family. He brought part of his goods in wagons, and shipped them by water around to Hennepin, and from there they were taken overland. Robert was elected one of the first three county commissioners after the county was organized. Murrell was elected county commissioner in 1845, sheriff in 1848, and county judge in 1850. He died at Fairbury, January 30, 1880.

The family of Andrew McMillan settled here about the same time, locating about four miles northwest of Pontiac. When the county was first organized, in 1837, the commissioners met at Mr. McMillan's home. It was in this little cabin that the county was formed, the location of the permanent seat of justice determined, and the first county commissioners appointed. This cabin was the "seat of justice" for several years afterward. In April, 1839, Mr. McMillan was appointed assessor for Center precinct. In 1840, he was elected one of the county commissioners, and also a member of the legislature, the first from this county. In 1843, he was elected probate justice and county treasurer and assessor, the two later offices being then combined. By referring to the records in the county commissioner's court under date of December 2, 1844, we find the following minute: "This day comes Andrew McMillan, treasurer of Livingston County, and makes settlement with the court, and pays over to the court \$13 in county orders and 20 cents in specie, it being the whole amount of funds received by him." In 1845, he was appointed to take the census of the county. His returns showed that there were but 987—men, women and children—in the county. In 1846, he was elected circuit clerk. In 1847 he was again elected treasurer. That the office was not remunerative is evidenced by the following order at the October term of the Commissioners' Court: "Ordered, that Andrew McMillan be allowed ten dollars (\$10) for services as county treasurer for two years." David Corbin arrived about this time.

Jacob Marks and son, John, came here in 1836 and settled on the claim purchased of Garrett M. Blue. They came from Fairfield County, Ohio, and made the trip overland with horse teams, arriving on June 9th of that year. Soon after locating here, John built a water-power grist and sawmill on the banks of the Vermillion

river. He continued in the milling business for about two years, when he engaged a large force of men and took the contract for building the Hennepin canal, which they continued to work at until the state funds for the payment of the work were exhausted. In 1858 he became infected with the gold fever and went to California, where he remained for nearly ten years, alternating between riches and poverty. On one occasion he was offered \$25,000 for an interest in his claim, which he declined, and the next week it was salable at any price. After various successes and reverses, he returned no richer than he went, excepting what his property in this township had increased in value during his absence. In 1836, he was elected constable, the first in this county, and in 1840, as a special agent of the government, he took the census of the county. The population in the county at that time was 759 inhabitants. He voted the Whig and Republican tickets for half a century.

The first school house in the township, or rather near the line between Rooks creek and Amity Township, was built in the winter of 1839. It was a small log house, and was the school for all the children "on the creek." It was opened the following spring. Many came from a distance and boarded with the residents. The attendance varied from fifteen to twenty pupils. The following summer, school was kept in John Johnson's cabin. In 1842-43, a creditable log school house was erected in the township. These structures were erected by the residents of the settlement and maintained by subscription. These were the only school houses until in the '50s. The Edgingtons, who located here in the later '30s, took a prominent part in the erection of these schools, and were always firm supporters of any and all educational enterprises. James Nelson settled here in 1848. He served in the war of 1812, under Gen. Harrison, while a resident of Fountain County, Indiana. In 1833, he left that state and went to Kane County, this state, locating in a grove since known as Nelson's grove. He sold out soon afterward and went to Wisconsin, and from that state he removed to this township. He removed to Pontiac in 1868.

The people of the township in 1853 petitioned for the sale of their school section. On November 24, 1854, this sale was effected, and with the sum on hand derived from the state on the yearly enumeration, constituted a fund amount-

ing to nearly \$2,000. At a meeting of the residents of the township, it was decided to make two or three school districts and erect a school house in a place agreed upon. The building was soon erected and in operation in the winter of that year. There were thirty scholars in attendance—sixteen boys and fourteen girls,—and the teacher was paid \$18 per month. There was only \$21 in the hands of the school treasurer to pay him, and he was compelled to wait until the taxes were collected. Two other school houses were erected later. The report of William McMillan, the township treasurer, for the year 1855, states that the amount of the principal of the township fund was \$1,853.12; the amount of interest on said fund paid into the township treasury was \$186.15; that the amount of state or common school fund received by him was \$216.50; that the amount of ad valorem tax was \$572; that the whole amount paid for building, repairing, purchasing, renting and furnishing school houses was \$686, and that the amount paid for school apparatus was \$15.61.

"Uncle" Jesse Green and wife located here in June, 1852. The latter died in 1857. He was one of the party who left Pontiac in 1858 for California. Upon his return he again took up his abode in this township. He now lives in Pontiac. William Gore and son Henry settled here in 1853, three years later removing to Pontiac, where the latter engaged in business. Daniel Blake arrived the same year. Thomas McClelland and wife came here in 1855. The former died in 1872 and the latter in 1878. Thomas Whalen landed in the township in 1856, having lived for seven years previous at Ottawa. Samuel Malone and John Lilly, and Abel Kidder came the same year. Samuel Earp settled here in 1857 from Columbiana County, Ohio. He filled nearly all the various township offices, having been three times elected as supervisor. He now owns 1,000 acres in Rooks creek and Amity Townships. In recent years he has lived in Pontiac. Handy Hutson and James Gutridge settled here the same year. Jesse Legg, Ephraim Houder and John Warner came here in 1858. Mr. Legg was a native of West Virginia, and had lived one year in McLean County before coming here. Mr. Houder came here from Tazewell County, where he had resided for seven years. In 1861 he removed to Eppards Point Township.

George B. Gray located here on March 22,



CECELIA GALLUP

1858. He was a native of New York state. A portion of the village of Graymont, which was named in his honor, is located on his land. He was a firm believer in the doctrines advocated by the Republican party, and at different times was rewarded by that party with various offices, including one term as commissioner of highways, two terms as supervisor, and two terms in the State Legislature. He was elected to the legislature in 1876 and re-elected in 1878. He was the author of the "cockle-burr" bill, which became a law, and has been of incalculable benefit to the farmers of the state. He was chairman of the committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and was also a member of other committees. William Garner and William Riggle settled here during the '50s. The latter erected a sawmill soon after his arrival.

In 1859, horse thieves and robbers began to make their appearance in this county, and in July of that year the people of this township formed themselves into an association known as the Rooks Creek Detective Association. Officers were elected and by-laws adopted. Each member was to pay into the treasury the sum of \$1.00, and was required to turn out whenever called upon to pursue a thief, for which he was entitled to \$1.00 a day for such services.

The first attempt for the formation of a religious society was in October, 1858, the meeting being held in one of the school houses. A class of six members—Samuel Malone, John Lilly and Jesse Legg, and their wives,—was organized by Rev. David Anderson, a Methodist minister, who had been conducting meetings in the settlements "along the creeks." Rev. A. C. Frick was the next preacher, and under his labors the congregation increased to forty members. In 1860, Rev. Brandenburg was appointed pastor; in 1861, Rev. Robert Pierce; in 1862, P. A. Crist; in 1864, Rev. A. P. Hull. It was then determined to erect a church, and trustees were elected. Rev. A. E. Day was the minister during 1865-66. The church was completed in 1867, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. E. P. Hall. Rev. Thomas Cotton was the pastor at this time. The next year the church appeared for the first time on the church records. In 1871 the parsonage was erected at a cost of \$622. The church and parsonage is located on the farm of Nathan Hutson. The cemetery is just north of the church, the burial lots being furnished free of cost.

VILLAGE OF GRAYMONT.

Graymont is located six miles west of Pontiac, on the Minonk branch of the Illinois Central railroad. The town was laid out by George B. Gray, and named after him. It has a population of about 100 inhabitants. It has several general stores, a blacksmith shop, three grain elevators and a lumber yard. Besides a good district school, there are also two churches—Methodist and Baptist,—located in the village. The Modern Woodmen is the only fraternal organization there.

ROUND GROVE TOWNSHIP.

This township is located in the extreme northwest portion of the county. Outside of Currier's grove on Section 1 and Round grove on Section 10, the township is devoid of natural timber. The township is watered by Gooseberry creek and a branch of the Mazon creek, both streams flowing toward the north. The Three-I road runs east and west through the northern part and the Wabash runs northeast and southwest. Three villages are located in the township—Campus, Cardiff and Wilson. Coal in abundance is found at Cardiff.

John Currier and family came here from Pennsylvania in the spring of 1851, and erected their cabin in the little grove on section 1, which still bears the name. Alfred Clover and sons, Philip and Amos, followed the next year, coming from Grundy County, where they had settled in 1844. Amos in later years returned to Grundy County, where he was elected a member of the Legislature as an Independent, and was one of six who held the balance of power which resulted in the election of Judge David Davis of Bloomington to the United States Senate in 1877. Clark Pratt and James Gibson arrived in 1853. Stephen Potter located on section 15 in April, 1854. He was a native of New York state. Before becoming a resident here, he had lived in Ohio and Michigan for a number of years, and in Joliet ten years. He went overland to California in 1849, and upon his return, with his family he settled here. Mr. Potter was noted as a hunter. Shabbona, the Indian chief, and members of his tribe, frequently came over from the grove in DeKalb County, and hunted on the prairie near his home. While the Prince of Wales was on a visit to this country in 1860,

he hunted on Mr. Potter's premises, and the latter showed the Prince his skill in the use of the rifle. Nelson Jeffers became a resident in the summer of 1854. A. Z. Taylor and William Cook arrived in 1855. Jesse Snyder, Robert, Peter and Jesse Eldred, W. P. Johnson and Charles Johnson located here in 1856. The following year, Malachi Shelly, Daniel A. Mulford and Cyrus Thomas became residents. Edwin Lathrop settled here in 1859. The township began to settle up in the 60's, among whom we note the following: John Graham and James Kelly, in 1860; Alexander Grant and Pinckney S. Brown, in 1861; George Maxon, in 1863; Henry Palmer, in 1864; James H. Beatly, S. T. Pfefferman and James Kelly, in 1866; Martin Seabert and James Beatty, in 1867; J. W. Lister, Aaron Prickett, Samuel Casemen, in 1868; Robert Blair, in 1870. The first school house, a log cabin, was erected in 1854, Charlotte Potter being the teacher. A better school house was erected in 1859. The township was formerly Democratic, but since the coal mines have been in operation at Cardiff, where many Italians are employed, it has gone strongly Republican. There are two voting precincts in the township, at Campus and Cardiff.

VILLAGE OF CAMPUS.

The village of Campus is situated in Round Grove Township, on the Wabash railroad. The village was laid out and platted by Charles W. Sheldon in April, 1880, on his farm of 640 acres on section 33. The town had a disastrous fire in 1897 that destroyed three of the business houses. A fine brick structure was built on the ruins. The business men are full of push and activity. The Catholic church is the first brick structure in the village and has a large congregation. The Methodist church is a frame structure with a seating capacity of 200. One of the principal industries is a tile and brick factory. Campus is one of the best centers for the market of grain on the Wabash road. The village has one hotel, three general stores, three implement dealers, meat market, blacksmith shop. The Woodmen lodge is in a flourishing condition. The population of the village is about 250.

VILLAGE OF WILSON.

Wilson is on the Three-I road, six miles east of Dwight. The village has about fifty inhabitants. It has a general store, a blacksmith shop and a grain elevator.

VILLAGE OF CARDIFF.

Cardiff is in Round Grove Township, on the main line of the Wabash railroad. It is strictly a mining town, more coal being mined and shipped from this point than from all the mines in the county. The miners are principally Italians. The village has a population of about 500 inhabitants. All classes of business are represented. Several years ago an explosion of gas occurred in the bottom of the mine (since abandoned) in which three lives were lost. The bodies were never recovered. Services have been held each year to pay a tribute of respect to their memory. The present mine was sunk some five years ago.

SAUNEMIN TOWNSHIP.

At the time of the formation of the county in 1857, Saunemin, Sullivan, Pleasant Ridge and Charlotte Townships were comprised in one election precinct, and so it stood until 1859, when Pleasant Ridge and Charlotte were struck off. When all four of these towns were embraced in one, it was called Saunemin, after the old sachem of the Kickapoo Indians, and was given the precinct by Franklin Oliver, of the present township of Chatsworth, who settled among the Indians in 1832 and knew the chief well. The present township of Saunemin is about seven-eighths prairie to one-eighth timber; the latter is embraced in Five Mile grove, lying along the borders of Five Mile creek. A branch of the Vermilion river divides the townships of Saunemin and Pleasant Ridge.

David Cripliver and his two sons, Joseph and S. P. Cripliver, were the first persons to make a permanent settlement in this township, locating in 1845 in the northern part of what has since been known as Five Mile grove, a stretch of timber covering about 200 acres. Joseph had settled a few years prior near Babcock's grove, in Esmen Township. He came to this section and made a claim, his father and brother coming here from Indiana. Upon their arrival they first occupied the old "survey hut" until they could erect a cabin. In 1848 they sold their original claim to John Ridinger, and they entered another tract a few miles away. Ridinger was also a native of Indiana. He first located in Avoca Township in 1846. He was a member of the first jury in the county. He endured the usual hardships which fell to the pioneer set-



Era Kimball

tlar and became widely and favorably known throughout the county. He assisted in raising the frame of the first flouring mill erected below Pontiac, and helped to build the first bridge at Pontiac. During the cholera epidemic in 1849, the disease prevailed to an alarming extent at Pontiac, and during this time he gave great assistance to the sufferers in the capacity of a nurse. He died in November, 1880. James Funk, who had lived for several years in Esmen Township, came here in 1852. He remained but a few years, removing to Missouri, but later returned and lived here until his death in 1867. John Cottrell came here the same year. Among those who located here in 1854, were the Smith brothers—Thomas, Oliver and John,—Jason Tuttle and John Martin. Tuttle was from New York state, but had lived in Michigan several years before coming here. The Smith brothers were from Ohio. Thomas Smith afterward moved to Avoca Township, where he now owns 1,200 acres of land. Joshua Chesebro, who had been a year or so in Sullivan Township, as did also William Young from New York state, came here in 1855. Truman W. Brydia and sons, William and Charles, and Robert Miller and Thomas Cleland arrived in 1856. The Brydia family were originally from Vermont, but had lived for twenty years in Greene County, this state. William Brydia now lives in Pontiac and his brother, Charles, in Fairbury. Cleland soon after his arrival erected a small blacksmith shop on his farm. Miller came here from Marshall County, this state. John Thomas came from Will County Orange Sanford, George Chambers, S. L. Marsh, in 1857. Among the arrivals in 1858 were C. B. Marsh, Thomas Spafford and Robert Spafford. The Marshes were from Massachusetts. The Spafford brothers had resided for two years previous on a rented farm in Avoca Township. The latter contingent were originally from Indiana. The above were practically all of the persons who located here in the '50s, nearly all of them locating near Five Mile Grove.

Among those who located in the '60s were Jasper Bacon, B. D. Barker, John H. Byrne, S. W. Carner, Albion Harris, George H. Knight, James Lovelock, William Kilgore, John Mariner, O. H. P. Noel, M. Paddock, A. Ross, John Rich, J. J. Rich, Jacob Righter, Walter Righter, Hiram Righter, Gardner Goodrich, Richard Ruston, Robert Shields, C. H. Swan, H. P. Swan, T. M. Thornton, Thomas Watts, A. W. Parks, John Mc-

Cloud, A. C. Winters, W. F. Denslow, William C. Burleigh. At the completion of the Chicago & Alton road to Bloomington, Burleigh was employed as passenger conductor and ran the first train on the road.

The first school house was built of logs, in 1854, the first teacher being Miss Julia Hamlin. The second teacher was Miss Helen Hayes, who is still unmarried and lives in Pontiac. The first school house built by public funds was completed in 1863. Miss Margaret Lilly (now Mrs. William T. Brydia of Pontiac), was the first one to teach in it. She commenced her school in the log school house, before this was finished, but on its completion she moved into the new building on June 17 of that year, and finished the term. She was to receive \$20 per month in gold, but upon being paid for her services, she was given scrip. Thomas N. Smith was the first school treasurer. In 1862, the school directors were S. P. Cripliver, John Cottrell and Jason Tuttle.

The first church society to be formed was the Methodist. They erected a building for worship in 1872, and it was called the Bethel Methodist church. This structure has since been moved to the village of Saunemin. The Christian church was formed in 1871, and it still has a large membership. The United Brethren society was formed in 1867 under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Elliott. The Presbyterian and Congregational societies were formed at an early day. These societies all held services in the Bethel church, it being the only church building in the township at that time.

Truman W. Brydia was the first justice of the peace and the first supervisor after Sullivan was separated and set off. He officiated at two wedding ceremonies in one day (the first marriages in the township), the contracting parties being Miss Nancy Scott and William Young and Miss Celia Ann Ridinger and Isaac Williams.

The first birth was that of a daughter (Catherine), of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cripliver in January, 1852. The first death was that of the wife of John Martin, in March, 1855. Twin children born to Mr. and Mrs. John Ridinger also died in March, 1855.

Saunemin has two cemeteries in the township—Five Mile Grove and Sunny Slope. The former was laid out in the early settlement of the township. John Ridinger first donated one acre of ground for the purpose and afterward the town

purchased another acre. Sunny Slope is situated one-half mile west of the village of Saunemin.

In 1869, a postoffice was established with A. W. Parks as postmaster. He was succeeded two years later by G. D. Paddock. The office was in the village called Bethel, named after the Methodist church erected there, although the name of the postoffice was Saunemin. In this hamlet were two stores, conducted by G. D. Paddock and J. R. Richter, A. W. Young's blacksmith shop, Homer Tiffany's shoe shop, a school house, and some half a dozen residences.

Otho F. Pearre, a noted historian now deceased, gives the following account of a sad occurrence which happened in the township:

"In the summer of 1858, a woman was drowned in Five Mile creek, about one mile from the present residence of S. L. Marsh. She was traveling through the country alone, and had called at the house of Mr. Thomas the evening before she was drowned, but had not, it seems, given a very definite or satisfactory account of herself, and had left late in the evening. The next day she was found in Five Mile creek, 'cold in death.' Who she was, whence she came, or whither going, none ever knew beyond mere supposition, which was that she belonged to a company of emigrants who had passed that way some time before; had become dissatisfied and homesick, and was trying to get back to the old home of her childhood, when fate overtook her, and her destiny was brought to an abrupt close. The people generously and kindly took the remains and decently interred them in their little graveyard in Five Mile Grove. There they still repose, and her friends, if she had any, are ignorant of her fate to the present day."

VILLAGE OF SAUNEMIN.

The village was platted and surveyed by County Surveyor D. J. Stanford, on September 24, 1879, for Thomas Braumley and George D. Paddock, the former being the owner of the southwest quarter of section 15 and the latter the owner of the northwest quarter of section 22. October 3, 1879, Holdridge and Spafford laid out an addition, and on December 1, 1883, another addition was laid out by R. L. Holdridge. Although not so old as many of the towns in the county, Saunemin has had a remarkable growth, and is now recognized as one of the most thriving towns. It is located on the Wabash railroad, and one mile south from the crossing of the

Illinois Central railroad. It is a good trading point, and affords a market for grain that is unexcelled. The village numbers about 600 inhabitants. The first store was conducted by G. D. Paddock, who moved his building and dwelling house from the little hamlet of Bethel, located about one-half mile from here. Dr. H. E. W. Barnes arrived next from Fairbury, and besides being the first physician, he also conducted a drug and grocery store. B. E. Robinson opened a lumber yard and also engaged in the dry goods business. A. W. Young moved his blacksmith shop from Bethel. Cording & Bennett engaged in the grocery and hardware business. This firm later dissolved, the former running a hardware store and the latter a furniture store. Samuel Lewis conducted the first boarding house and later built a hotel. At the present time the business houses are well represented, and most of the store buildings are of brick. The churches are the Methodist and Christian. The school house is located a short distance southeast of the village. One feature of the school is the requirement that pupils pass the county superintendent's examination before graduation. Sunny Slope cemetery is located a short distance west of the school house. The village has a commodious town hall, with stage and auditorium, and is the scene of many social and public happenings. The secret societies are the Masons, Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of Rebekah, Royal Neighbors and Grand Army of the Republic. The bank is owned by Ira M. Lish and P. H. Lannon. At one time a large tile and brick manufactory was located north of the village, but it has long ceased operations. All of the sidewalks in the village are of cement. It has two newspapers, the Gazette and Headlight, the former being published at Fairbury and the latter at Cullom. This is the home of State Senator Ira M. Lish.

VILLAGE OF EYLAR.

Eylar is located on the Illinois Central road, nine miles east of Pontiac. The village is quite small, having a store and an elevator.

VILLAGE OF SCOVEL.

Scovel is at the junction of the Illinois Central and Wabash railroads. It is located one mile north of Saunemin. It has a grain elevator, but no stores.



Lucy M. Kimball.

VILLAGE OF GRISWOLD.

Griswold is on the Illinois Central road, twelve miles east of Pontiac. A store, an elevator and a few residences constitute the village.

SULLIVAN TOWNSHIP.

Sullivan was formerly a part of Saunemin Township, but was set off in 1860. It is known as Town 28, Range 8. Pleasant Ridge and Charlotte were included in these as an election precinct and also for a year or two after township organization, when the latter two were struck off, and Sullivan was separated from Saunemin. It is situated in the eastern tier of townships, with Ford County on the east, Broughton Township on the north, Charlotte on the south and Saunemin on the west. Sullivan was named after Michael Sullivant the land king of Ford County, who also owned several sections in this township. The upper half of the township is rolling, but the lower half in an early day and for several years afterward, was nothing but a large swamp, and was the principal resort for the hunters. Nearly all of this land has been drained since the dredging of the Vermilion river, and is now under cultivation. The township has gone Republican, with a few exceptions, ever since its organization. When Alexander Harbison was elected supervisor in 1861, not a Democratic vote was cast.

The first settlers in the township were Alexander Harbison and Joshua and Saxon Chesebrough, all natives of New York state, who came here in 1855. Harbison located on the north-east quarter of section 9, Joshua on the southeast quarter of section 4, and Saxon on the north-east quarter of section 4. The Chesebroughs erected a house in partnership on the quarter section line. Joshua moved to Saunemin in 1857 and the house was occupied for several years by Saxon and his family. Harbison remained here until 1865 when he removed to Five Mile Grove in Saunemin Township, and in 1866 located in Fairbury. Rev. Felix Thornton arrived the following year from Tennessee. He was a Methodist minister and preached the first sermon in the township, services being held in Mr. Harbison's cabin. He also solemnized the marriage of Dr. J. M. Perry of Pontiac and Miss Emily Gibson, it being the first wedding in the township. He remained a year or so and then moved into

Saunemin Township, later moving to Iowa. Frederick Hack and R. F. Griffing came about the same time. Mr. Hack laid out the townsite of Cullom and engaged in the lumber, grain and hardware business. He was postmaster for a number of years, held the office of supervisor for several terms, was president of the village board, school director for sixteen years, and highway commissioner for eighteen years. Griffing bought out Thornton's claim. He also held various township offices. The settlement was increased during the 50's by the arrival of the families of John Heckelman, Daniel Clark, D. H. Longmire, Abraham Gibson, Hunter Randall, Samuel Harshbarger, James Sage, Samuel Graybill, Joseph Royle, Lawrence Haag, Joseph Small, Jacob Lightly, Daniel Rowan, George Rosenbauer. Mr. Longmire assisted in the laying of roads and establishing schools, and took an active part in all public matters pertaining to the interests of the township.

Among some of those who settled in the 60's were Martin Detweiler, William Faust, Elias Hartman, Richard Brooks, James Madden, J. J. Shearer, David Shantz, Monroe Bute, T. W. Chandler, G. W. Evans, R. P. Gallup, Isaac Herner, Josiah Kerr, B. F. Lehman, J. K. Lehman, J. H. Lehman, Richard Shapland, F. Skinner and Zopher Tuttle. The latter purchased 6,000 acres from the Sullivant tract and engaged in the cattle business. In 1873 he rented his farms and that same year he established a bank in Dwight, although he continued to reside in this township. He was a Republican, took no part in political affairs, and seldom voted. He moved to Wichita, Kan., in the '80s, where he died, his vast estate passing into the hands of his heirs. Martin Detweiler is at present looking after the farms. James Mad-din served as assessor for thirty consecutive years.

Soon after the mail route was established (1870) between Pontiac and Clifton, a little village sprang up in the center of the county, called Sullivan Center. A postoffice was established the same year. Edward Ward conducted the first store and was made postmaster. He afterward sold out to Abel and Edwin Morrell. Later a blacksmith shop was kept by Anson Ackley and a wagon shop by J. J. Brown. The village is now a thing of the past.

The first school was taught in the winter of 1857-58 by Eliza Rowan at the home of Alex-

ander Harbison, who was the first school treasurer of the township. The first directors were Saxon Chesebrough, Samuel Graybill and David Lighty, David Longmire, David Taylor and Joseph Royle were the first school trustees. For some time after the organization of schools, Sullivan and Saunemin were together, but have since been separated.

A cemetery was laid out in Sullivan Center in 1863, the first person buried therein being the wife of R. F. Griffing. The first child born in the township was William Chesebrough, who now lives in Fairbury. The wife of Alexander Harshbarger was the first person to die in the township.

The township is thickly settled with Germans. A Mennonite church was erected some years ago east of the village of Cullom, and a Lutheran church built in the village. The nearest approach of a colony settling here was in 1857. During that year, members of the Universalist denomination of Cincinnati, Ohio, authorized John Sample of Paxton to purchase a tract of land for them in Central Illinois. Mr. Sample visited this township, and purchased and paid for six sections, and the colony was to locate here the following spring. That was the year of the panic. The failure of the banks in Cincinnati, in which the members of the church were heavy depositors, drained heavily upon their purses, and many lost all the money they had. The land was afterward sold to the settlers.

VILLAGE OF CULLOM.

The village was platted and laid out by Frederick Hack. It is on a branch of the Illinois Central road from Kankakee to Bloomington. The first settlement was made in 1878, and the postoffice established the following year, although the village was not incorporated until 1890. The growth of the town has been steady and substantial. In 1896, a brick block was completed and in 1897 a brick bank building with a large business block was constructed. Every line of merchandise is represented. An excellent system of public schools is maintained, although the schools have never been centralized. There are three church buildings in the village—Methodist, Catholic and German Lutheran. A large tile and brick factory is located here. The village is lighted by electric lights. Two additions have been laid out in recent years—Heckelman's on the east, and Hertlein's on the south. It has one

weekly newspaper, the Chronicle, of which S. E. Porterfield is publisher. The Odd Fellows', Modern Woodmen, and Toilers' Fraternities are among the secret orders. Cullom has a fine well and a few years ago erected a standpipe. The village has a population of about 500 inhabitants.

SUNBURY TOWNSHIP.

With the exception of about one section in the southwest corner, and a few small groves planted, this township may be said to be without timber. The southern part is quite rolling. The only stream flowing through the township is Mud creek. Owing to the scarcity of timber and water this township did not settle up rapidly until after the '50s. The groves to the south and west along Mud creek and the Vermilion river were fairly well occupied at that time, but to the north and east, including this township, was but an open plain on which neither a house nor a fence nor any other evidence existed to indicate that a white man had ever visited this region. The Three-I road and a branch of the Chicago & Alton both run east and west through the northern part of the township. The township was named by William K. Brown, after a town by the same name in Pennsylvania, where he formerly resided, and was organized April 6, 1858, by the election of J. O. Corey as supervisor; J. S. Cumming, clerk; T. F. Norton, assessor; A. S. Blakeslee, collector; Andrew Sprague, John Gower and R. C. Myer as commissioner of highways; Isaac Ames and A. J. Hopkins, constables. Only 19 votes were cast at this election.

Andrew Sprague was the first white man to locate here. He was a native of New York state. He arrived in 1835 and located his claim in the timber on the banks of Mud creek. John V. Hilton settled on Wolf creek in 1842, making the journey overland from Buffalo, N. Y. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, for which a pension was granted him, the certificate bearing the date on which he died, his death occurring in October, 1864.

Jacob Longnecker and family came here in 1844. He was born in Pennsylvania, but had lived for several years in Kentucky and Indiana. He came here overland with horses and oxen, bringing his sheep, cattle and hogs with him. He first lived in a cabin which had been erected by Ephraim Sprague, Mr. Longnecker and son.

Sylvester, entered 320 acres of land, and erected a cabin. The elder Longnecker died in 1861.

Luther Smith came here in 1847. He settled on the prairie, two miles south of where the town of Blackstone is now located. His farm has always been known as "Smith's Mound." In the early '50s an Englishman by the name of Liley was murdered and his body found three miles north of Smith's place, just over the line in La Salle County. The clothing had been removed and the face mutilated to prevent identification. The day before Liley's disappearance, he had been in Ottawa, where he purchased a scythe and snath, and set on foot for his home in Livingston County. About a week after, a man by the name of George Gates was arrested in Ottawa, and lodged in jail. He was identified as having been seen traveling with Liley just at evening on the day of his disappearance, and carrying Liley's scythe. The wounds upon Liley were two cuts across the face and a triangular cut deep across the top of the head, cutting through the skull. A scythe was found near the body, bent so as to fit the triangular cut in the head. Gates' clothing was bloody, as proved by his washerwoman, and he paid out some Prussian thalers, such as Liley had received at the bank in Ottawa; and Gates was seen wearing a coat belonging to Liley. At the June term of court in Ottawa in 1853, Gates was convicted of the crime and hanged in August following.

James Hill and family and James P. Hadley and wife came here in 1848. The latter died in 1852. Mr. Hadley was one of the organizers of the township and assisted in appraising the school lands, in 1853, the lands ranging from \$5 to \$8 per acre in value. He also assisted in organizing the districts for road and school purposes. Among his neighbors in after years he was familiarly known as "Uncle Jimmy." John Blackmore and son Henry came here in 1849, having previously lived in Danville and Ottawa.

Isaac Ames, Thomas F. Norton, B. F. Norton, J. O. Corey, Erastus Corey, Ansel Gammon, M. W. Gammon and C. D. Gammon were among the settlers during the years 1852-53. T. F. Norton was a native of Maine. In 1854 he was elected county surveyor and during the years 1858 to 1861, township assessor. In 1862, Mr. Norton was ordained a minister of the Baptist church. Isaac Ames was also a native of Maine. He served as supervisor in 1861 and 1864, and as collector in 1859. J. O. Corey was from Pennsyl-

vania, and had been an officer in the Mexican War. He was the first supervisor, being elected in 1858, and also held the office during 1874-76. He removed to Iowa in 1876. Anderson Corbin and Oliver Corbin came here in April, 1855, from West Virginia. For several years they were the village blacksmiths. John Gower and son, Bailey A. Gower, came here from La Salle County about 1856. They were natives of Maine. The former was supervisor in 1859, 1860 and 1863, and the latter during the years 1866 and 1869. Erastus Thatcher and H. H. Brower came here the same year. The latter was a lawyer and practiced in the courts of this county. He was a candidate for representative to the Legislature in 1860, but was defeated by 387 votes. He served as supervisor during the years 1862 and 1868. J. W. Patterson became a resident in 1858. He was killed at the battle of Fort Donelson in 1862.

At the first election held November 6, 1858, for county officers, but 34 votes were cast in this township. At the judicial election held in May of the following year, 48 votes were cast. The census of 1870 gave the township 891 inhabitants.

The Livingston County Anti-Slavery society held a meeting in the grove in the township on July 2, 1859. The meeting was not largely attended on account of the rain. After singing an anti-slavery hymn, reading selections from the Scripture and prayer, the meeting was addressed by Rev. G. W. Bassett, of Washington, D. C.; Rev. William Strawn, I. G. Mott, H. H. Hinman, A. H. Wykoff and Isaac H. Ames. The three latter were appointed a committee to prepare an address to the people of Illinois on the subject of a Personal Liberty law.

The first school house in the township was built in 1836, the teacher being Catharine Sprague. The Hilton school was built in 1855 and the Ames school in 1856. The report of Thomas F. Norton, the first school treasurer, shows that "in 1855 there was but one school, thirty-four scholars in attendance, ninety-two children in the township, and but one teacher; the highest wages paid was \$12 per month, and the whole amount paid out for school purposes was \$38.75; there were but 107 school books in all the houses, sixty-five of which were elementary spellers."

In December, 1857, a Universalist society was formed in what was then known as the Rice school house, at the head of Mud creek. Rev.

E. G. Bull was moderator. Public worship was held every Sunday.

In the early times, the settlers received their mail at a little postoffice in Esmen Township, which was on the mail route from Danville to Ottawa. It was afterward removed to the home of Andrew Sprague.

There are three cemeteries in the township—Blackstone cemetery, located one-half mile west and one-half mile south of the village; Jones' cemetery, located in the southeast quarter of section 31; Hadley cemetery, located on the southwest quarter of section 33.

A Catholic church and parsonage are located on the northeast quarter of section 10, one-half mile south of the village of Budd. When Rev. Father O'Brien, the priest in charge, died several years ago, his body was laid to rest in the church lot.

VILLAGE OF BLACKSTONE.

This village was laid out January 6, 1870, soon after the branch of the Alton railroad from Dwight to Streator was completed. It is located on section 7. It was named in honor of T. B. Blackstone, then president of the Alton road. Rumery & Oliver erected the first building and put in a stock of general merchandise, Charles A. Holton was the first postmaster. The village has a Methodist church and a two-room school house. At the present time, Dunlap & Ruddy are conducting a general store, and Applegate Brothers operate a lumber yard and grocery store. There are also two elevators, W. W. Wilkinson is the present postmaster. It has a population of about fifty.

VILLAGE OF BUDD.

Budd is located on the Three-I road. William Cahill is in charge of the elevator and John Hughes runs a general store. There is also a postoffice. There are but few inhabitants.

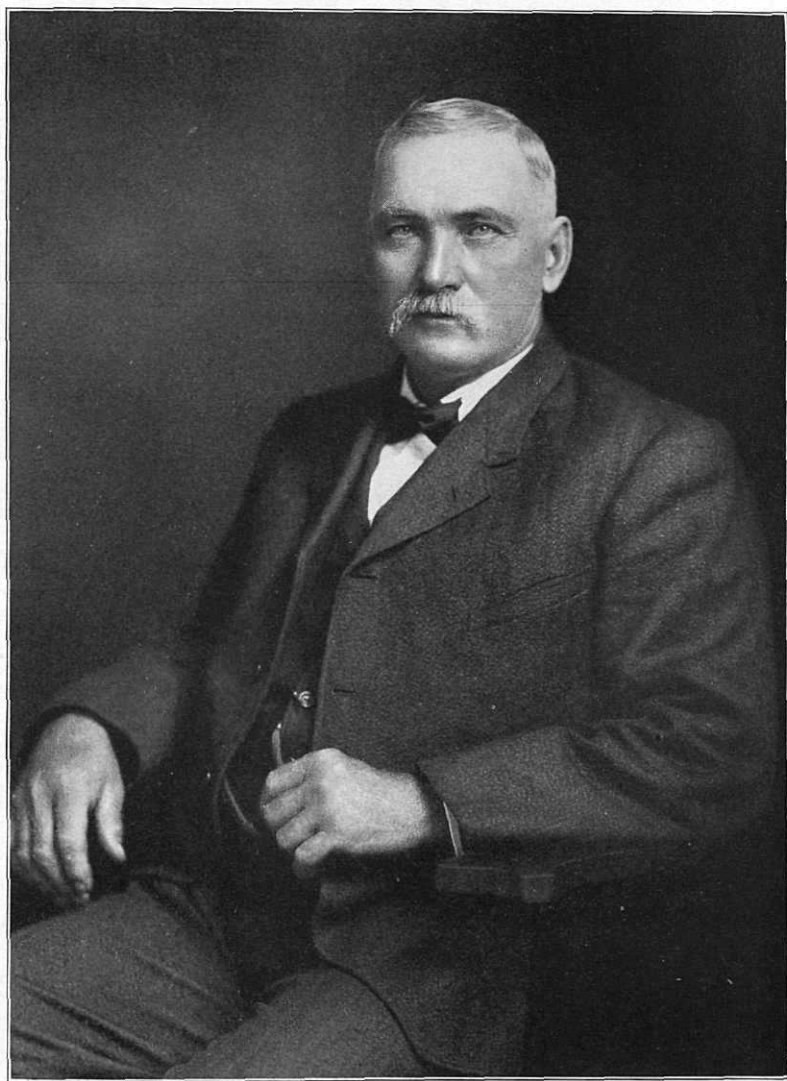
UNION TOWNSHIP.

It was not until February 2, 1864, that, upon a petition of twenty-four of its citizens, Union Township was set off from Odell Township. As a congressional township, it is Town 29, Range 7. It was sparsely settled until the commencement of the war. The township lay in the canal grant of land, and in some instances land was not offered for sale until after 1850. This land at first sold for \$6 and \$7 per acre, on long time.

When the first sale of the school section was made, one-half sold for \$8 per acre. The land in the township is rolling and possessed of an excellent soil. In many places there were large sloughs, but since the settlement these have all been drained and the township represents now an unbroken series of excellent farms, all under cultivation. An addition to the village of Emington is in this township. The Wabash road runs through the southeast corner. James C. Brown was the first supervisor. Union is lately gone Republican, although in local affairs, politics is thrown aside, and the best men are elected.

It was not until twenty years after the county was organized and the county seat located, that John Harbison and Alexander Campbell made their way from Pennsylvania to try their fortunes in the Prairie state. This was in 1856. Campbell owned a large track in this township and he induced Mr. Harbison to come out and farm it. A few months later, Joseph Walton arrived with his family from Boston, Mass. These three families were the pioneer settlers of Union Township. In the fall of 1859 Mrs. Walton taught a school in her house, the first in the neighborhood, receiving as compensation \$1.50 for each scholar during the term. In 1864 Mr. Walton returned with his family to his native state.

In the fall of 1856 Wesley Heddenburg of St. Louis purchased 3,500 acres in one body in the center of the township. He never located here, but sent his brother, Fletcher, to break up the sod. The trading point of these settlers was Pontiac, and there being no public road to that village, Fletcher hitched eight yoke of oxen to a breaking plow and made a furrow through the tall grass. He thought he was making a "bee-line," but instead he landed two miles west of Pontiac. This furrow was followed by the early settlers until the laying out of roads on the section lines. All of the Heddenburg tract has long since passed into other hands. Hugh and William Thompson and Levi and Joseph Dell arrived in 1857. The Thompsons were natives of Ohio and the Dells of Pennsylvania. With the exception of Joseph Dell, the above three served in the Civil War, in the 129th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Hugh Thompson was elected county treasurer in 1865 and circuit clerk in 1892. Levi Dell left here after the close of the war, but his brother remained for several years afterward. Arthur Marshall came in 1858 from Belmont



J a Garretson

County, Ohio. Samuel Hoke and family arrived the following summer from Blair County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Hoke taught school in her house for six months the same fall and winter, teaching six days in the week, and received her pay (\$120) in gold. This was the first public school in the township. Among those who settled in the '60s were Peter Metz, Frank Whipple, John McCloud, James Telford, James Hamilton, W. A. Hutchins, D. B. Walker, Emmons Goss, James C. Brown, Robert Walker, John Luke, Abram Funk, Edward Essington, John Fulton, John Ferguson, Edward Collins, Richard Judge, Thomas Jones, William Trecker, James Kirkpatrick, Edward Wauchope, Thomas Brown, Simeon T. Call, R. H. Austen, G. H. Austen, Andrew McMeans, John Wyllie.

As noted above Mrs. Walton and Mrs. Hoke taught the first schools in their homes. A school building was erected during 1860 and school opened that winter, the trustees being Samuel Hoke, James Hamilton, and Arthur Marshall. The following year another school house was erected. In the early days religious services were held in the Heddenburg home, and later at the school houses. The early settlers were principally Presbyterian and the preachers were Rev. Bascom of Odell and Dr. Bettelheim of Cayuga. The Catholics have erected a fine church, parsonage, convent and school at Loretto, in the center of the township. There is a cemetery on the Hamilton farm, in the southeast corner of section 14.

WALDO TOWNSHIP.

Owing to the sparse settlement in some parts of the county, the township organization in some cases included what is now several townships. This was the case in Waldo until 1861, when it was detached from Nebraska Township, and has since been a separate organization. It is known as Township 27, Range 3. Scattering creek is the only stream of water in the township. It rises near the center, flows northward through Nebraska, Rooks Creek and Amity Townships to

the Vermilion river. Until 1857, the entire surface of the township was unbroken prairie, level as a floor. There were many large sloughs in the township at that time, but all have been drained. The early settlers purchased land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, whose grant included the western tier of townships in this county. The price was generally \$14 per acre, although in after years it was reduced to \$6 an acre. The hard times of 1858-59 retarded immigration somewhat to this part of the county, but the richness of the soil was a strong attraction, and in the '60s settlers came in rapidly.

In 1857 several persons located in the township. The first one to become a permanent settler was James McFadden, who located in the spring of that year. A few months later Henry Broad, who had previously located near Pontiac, made his appearance. Others to arrive were Richard Breese, James Pample, James King, Parker Jewett, Isaac Birkholder and J. C. Hawthorne. The following year the settlement was increased by the arrival of Nathan Hunting, Leonard Smith, G. W. Stoker, John Broad, David Sharp.

Among those who came in the '60s were James Andrews, George Andrews, A. L. Smith, D. C. Benedict, W. H. Cornwell, R. M. Holt, Jacob Gingerich, Jacob King, John Kirkton, John Albrecht, Edson Wilder and sons, Marshall, Malcolm and Edson.

In 1860 the Amish began to arrive, and at the present time they own over one-half of the land in the township. Among the early settlers of this sect were John P. Schmidt, Joseph Rediger, John Rediger, Joab Rediger, John and Christian Ehresman, Joseph Gerig, David Sharp, Christian, John and Joab King. They have erected several churches in the township.

As there were but four children in the township in the winter of 1857-58, no attempt to establish a school was made until 1859, when a school house was erected, the teacher being Miss Ella Jewett. She taught four months and received \$20 per month. At that time eighteen pupils were attending this school. In 1860 another school building was erected, and in 1863-64 two others were added.

List of Township Officers in Livingston County 1908-1909

Townships	Supervisors 1908	Town Clerks 1908	Collectors 1908	Assessors 1909
Waldo	Fred Frey	Park Barnard	Lew Rathbun	Samuel Stuckey
Nebraska	H. F. Mette	S. C. Wilcox	W. H. Dutoit	W. A. Wilcox
Long Point ...	B. F. Colehower	John H. Miller	Bert D. Lampe	Wm. H. Swift
Reading	W. H. Kaminke	Arthur G. Huling ...	Frank Sanders	A. J. Mohan
Pike	Archibald Crabb	James Nicol	Henry Brinkman	Wm. G. Snethen
Rooks Creek ..	T. Y. Harris	Fred C. Kelley	Uriah Springer	F. A. Harris
Amity	John Shackelton	W. F. Partridge	L. A. Gmelich	Geo. W. Louderback
Newtown	Wm. A. Phillips	T. L. Harwood	E. L. Hohenshell	Wm. C. Mortland
Eppards Point .	John M. Burns	Ernest Roeseler	John Klein	Geo. A. Wagner
Pontiac	J. W. Hoover			
	Paul A. Balbach	F. L. Myers	Wheaton St. John	Joe S. Reed
	Alex McKay			
Esmen	Wm. Brunskill	John Jacobson	George Casson	C. E. Quaife
Sunbury	T. J. Corrigan	A. F. Ruddy	J. F. Corbin	Frank Clark
Belle Prairie ..	G. H. Bennett	W. L. Mundell	Frank Cox	O. D. Travis
Indian Grove ..	J. W. McDowell	G. B. Gordon	J. B. Lawrence	Geo. W. Bennett
Avoca	Arthur Moate	W. L. Slone	Elmer Armstrong	J. S. Vance
Owego	Frank Gschwendtner...	Francis Kennedy, Jr...	Fred Schmidt	Byron Ocean
Odell	M. Cleary	C. A. Vincent	N. A. Bemis	E. T. Metz
Nevada	B. Craven	Joseph Hoyer	M. J. Holohan	P. E. Riordan
Fayette	John Goembel	W. W. Quinn	John Aellig	F. Curyea
Forrest	T. C. Grotevant	F. E. Wendel	John Lear, Jr.,	J. O. Morris
Pleasant Ridge .	W. H. Melvin	A. L. Stuckey	Ed. Roeder	John Metz
Saunemin	T. L. Spafford	J. P. Lannon	Jas. E. Gray	A. Cording
Union	H. M. Thomas	Robert Linton	Fred Eggenberger	Dennis Turner
Dwight	R. D. Gregg	Clyde H. Thompson...	Carl Lund	James Kelagher
Germanville	T. J. O'Connor	Chas. B. Schroen	Wm. Kuntz	Henry Hummel
Chatsworth	John C. Corbett	J. F. Dorsey	Hiram Royal	Chas. Roberts
Charlotte	J. B. Grotevant	Pearl Hallam	Ubbe Rosendahl	Joseph Hubley
Sullivan	W. W. Zollinger	P. J. Cook	Robert J. Lamb	John P. Kennedy
Broughton	E. E. Gunderson	Mark Fisher	Harry Drew	Geo. R. Nettlingham
Round Grove ..	Thos. M. Walsh	J. J. Williams	Edward Devlin	Benjamin Thompson



Hannah Barrett

BIOGRAPHICAL

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE PART OF BIOGRAPHY IN GENERAL HISTORY—
CITIZENS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND OUTLINES
OF PERSONAL HISTORY—PERSONAL SKETCHES AR-
RANGED IN ENCYCLOPEDIA ORDER.

The verdict of mankind has awarded to the Muse of History the highest place among the Classic Nine. The extent of her office, however, appears to be, by many minds, but imperfectly understood. The task of the historian is comprehensive and exacting. True history reaches beyond the doings of court or camp, beyond the issue of battles or the effects of treaties, and records the trials and the triumphs, the failures and the successes of the men who make history. It is but an imperfect conception of the philosophy of events that fails to accord to portraiture and biography its rightful position as a part—and no unimportant part—of historic narrative. Behind and beneath the activities of outward life the motive power lies out of sight, just as the furnace fires that work the piston and keep the ponderous screw revolving down in the darkness of the hold. So, the impulsive power which shapes the course of communities may be found in the moulding influences which form its citizens.

It is no mere idle curiosity that prompts men to wish to learn the private, as well as the public, lives of their fellows. Rather is it true that such desire tends to prove universal brotherhood; and the interest in personality and biography is not confined to men of any particular caste or vocation.

The list of those, to whose lot it falls to play a conspicuous part in the great drama of life, is comparatively short; yet communities are made up of individuals, and the aggregate of achievements—no less than the sum total of human happiness—is made up of the deeds of those men and women whose primary aim, through life, is faithfully to perform the duty that comes nearest to hand. Individual influences upon human affairs will be considered potent or insignificant, according to the standpoint from which it is viewed. To him who, standing upon the seashore, notes the ebb and flow of the tides and listens to the sullen roar of the waves, as they break upon the beach in seething foam, seemingly chafing at their limitations, the ocean appears so vast as to need no tributaries. Yet, without the smallest rill that helps to swell the "Father of Waters," the mighty torrent of the Mississippi would be lessened, and

the beneficent influence of the Gulf Stream diminished. Countless streams, currents and counter currents—sometimes mingling, sometimes counteracting each other—collectively combine to give motion to the accumulated mass of waters. So is it—and so must it ever be—in the ocean of human action, which is formed by the blending and repulsion of currents of thought, of influence and of life, yet more numerous and more tortuous than those which form the "fountains of the deep." The acts and characters of men, like the several faces that compose a composite picture, are wrought together into a compact or heterogeneous whole. History is condensed biography; "Biography is History teaching by example."

It is both interesting and instructive to rise above the generalization of history and trace, in the personality and careers of the men from whom it sprang, the principles and influences, the impulses and ambitions, the labors, struggles and triumphs that engross their lives.

Here are recorded the careers and achievements of pioneers who, "when the fullness of time had come," came from widely separated sources, some from beyond the sea, impelled by divers motives, little conscious of the import of their acts, and but dimly anticipating the harvest which would spring from the sowing. They built their primitive homes, toiling for a present subsistence while laying the foundations of private fortunes and future advancement.

Most of these have passed away, but not before they beheld a development of business and population surpassing the wildest dreams of fancy or expectation. A few yet remain whose years have passed the allotted three-score and ten, and who love to recount, among the cherished memories of their lives, their reminiscences of early days.

[The following items of personal and family history, having been arranged in encyclopedic (or alphabetical) order as to names of the individual subjects, no special index to this part of the work will be found necessary.]

ABTS, John.—The agricultural interests of Livingston County are in the hands of intelligent, progressive, enterprising men, who thoroughly understand all the requirements and possibilities of their section of country, and who pursue their calling in such a manner as to reap substantial rewards and to place Illinois among the foremost States of the Union. Among those thus identified is John Abts, who lives on a fine farm on Section 5, Indian Grove Township, at Fairbury. He was born May 3, 1873,

and he is a son of Herman and Hilka (Muller) Abts, both natives of Ellsman, Ostfriesland, Germany. Herman Abts was born May 6, 1830, married May 2, 1858, and emigrated with his family to the United States in 1865. When a young man he learned the trade of a blacksmith and after locating in Fairbury, in 1866, he built a smithy and was perhaps the first blacksmith in that town. Here he not only followed his trade, but made all kinds of tools for the farmers in the surrounding territory, making a specialty of butcher knives. For many years he carried on a flourishing business, but being in comfortable circumstances, in 1892 he retired, bought 80 acres of land in Indian Grove Township, and lived there until his demise, which occurred September 8, 1902, being stricken with apoplexy while walking in his yard. Although medical aid was immediately summoned, the spirit of this kind-hearted, honorable, Christian man had fled. His widow only survived until December 21, 1904, when she, too, died. Mr. and Mrs. Abts had these children: Gertrude, who married Harry Shively of Bloomington, Neb., and they have nine living children; Paul is a merchant of Lawndale, Ill.; Albert is engineer in the Home for Feeble Minded Children, at Lincoln, Ill.; Lena married John Wessels, a prominent farmer of Indian Grove Township; Minnie married Frederick Wessels, also a farmer of Indian Grove Township; John; Clyde, who is a farmer of Boone County, Neb.

John Abts was born in Fairbury and there received his education, which was somewhat limited, for at the early age of thirteen he commenced working on a farm for eight dollars a month, which he turned over to his mother. This farm was owned by a Mr. Muntz. The young fellow thus continued until 1890, when he went to Lincoln, Ill., to work in a brick yard for a Mr. Gans, but after a year he returned to Fairbury and resumed his farm work. In 1899 he took charge of the Cour estate of 220 acres, and has continued to farm it ever since. He raises from 90 to 100 acres of corn and 90 acres of oats yearly and has his property well stocked with a good grade of cattle, horses and hogs. His buildings are in excellent condition and the premises indicate that a good manager is in charge.

On January 6, 1898 Mr. Abts married Carrie Larcher of Lincoln, Ill., born in Germany, November 19, 1877, a daughter of Martin and Mary (Bowler) Larcher, who came to America in 1884, and located in Lincoln, where Mr. Larcher died October 28, 1891, aged fifty-two years. In religious belief he was a Lutheran and a member of the congregation of the Second Lutheran church of Lincoln. By trade he was a miner. Mr. and Mrs. Larcher had these children: John, of Lincoln; Mary, who married Paul Abts, of Lincoln; Christina, who married Andrew Rutledge, of Dunlap, Ill.; Fred, of Lawndale, and Mrs. Abts. The mother of Mrs. Abts was the second wife of Mr. Larcher, his first wife having been a Miss Zimmerman, and the children of this marriage were: Mary, who mar-

ried Matt. Schurley and died in 1899; Martin, who resides near McLean, Ill.; Regina, who married Adam Schurley of Shickley, Neb. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Larcher married Chris Wise, and they reside near Lawndale, Ill. Mrs. Abts has borne her husband these children: Herman, born January 26, 1899; Fred, born December 23, 1900; Hilda, born July 30, 1902; Mary, born December 4, 1903; John, born January 4, 1906, and Carrie M., born June 30, 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Abts are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a Democrat and has always taken a lively interest in local affairs. He and his wife have a beautiful home and dispense a very grateful hospitality to their friends, who make their residence a gathering place for many social events.

ADAMS, Robert C.—Music and agriculture have been the rounds upon which Robert C. Adams ascended the ladder of success, and Livingston County has profited by his abilities both as a musician and a farmer. He is the third in order of birth of four sons of Robert and Cynthia (Pratt) Adams, natives of Connecticut, and he was reared on a farm near Watertown, New York, where he was born September 27, 1827. Educated in the Watertown public schools and institute, he early conceived a desire to penetrate the Far West, and in furtherance of this ambition set out in January, 1850, for the gold mines of California, sailing from New York to Panama, and from the Isthmus, going by ship to San Francisco. He was laid up for three months with fever at the Isthmus, but after his recovery and continued journey, played in the bands of San Francisco for two and a half years. To the end of his days he delighted in narrating his experiences in the ribald coast town of that period, for it seemed that the riff-raff of all the country was there assembled, and there prevailed the greatest license and lawlessness. Returning to the East by the same route which he before had journeyed, he engaged in band work in different towns between New York and Chicago until 1854, and during that year located in Livingston County, Ill., where his death occurred in August, 1892.

Mr. Adams had always had a predilection for the fields and the great out-of-doors, and in Nevada Township, Livingston County, he took up government land upon which he lived and conducted general farming and stock-raising for the rest of his active life, or until his retirement to Dwight in 1869. In all he entered 1,400 acres, and with the exception of 160 acres, this property still is in the possession of his family. He is recalled as a man of large business capacity, excellent musical understanding, and thorough appreciation of the courtesies and amenities of life. He won and kept many friends, and his passing was a matter of regret, not only because he was successful financially and socially, but because, with his music, he had so generously contributed to the enjoyment of the people around him.

ADEN, John, a well known and respected farmer living near Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Adams County, Ill., February 2, 1862, a son of John and Eylena Aden, natives of Germany. The paternal grandfather, John L. Aden, also a German by nativity, spent his entire life in the land of his birth. John Aden, the father, came with his wife to the United States at an early period, proceeding directly to Illinois and locating in Adams County. Thence he moved to Woodford County, Ill., where he bought eighty acres of land, and there spent the remainder of his life, having added forty acres to his original holding at the time of his death. The subject of this sketch grew up on the home farm, in boyhood attending the common schools, where he studied both German and English. Since reaching manhood he has followed farming successfully. In 1889 he moved to Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, where he now owns 160 acres of valuable land.

On April 24, 1888, Mr. Aden was joined in matrimony with Margaret Jansen, born in Livingston County, Ill., April 15, 1866, a daughter of Henry F. and Lena (Smith) Jansen, natives of Germany. Five children have resulted from this union, namely: Henry, born March 23, 1889, died January 15, 1894; Franz, born May 30, 1891; Henry, born August 4, 1894; August, born September 6, 1898, and Catherine, born February 15, 1904. In politics Mr. Aden is a supporter of the Republican party and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

Henry F. Jansen, the father of Mrs. Adens, came from his native country to the United States in early days, first locating in Adams County, Ill., where he married Lena Smith, later moving to Livingston County and becoming one of the first settlers of Nebraska Township, where he purchased 480 acres of land, besides 160 acres in Iroquois County, 160 acres in Ford County, and 160 acres in Minnesota. Eight children resulted from the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jansen, viz.: John, Tillie, Frankie (deceased), Margaret, Catherine (deceased), Ahrend, Catherine (2nd), and Lena.

AHERN, Clinton James.—A comparatively recent and promising acquisition to the bar of Dwight, Ill., is Clinton James Ahern, who, notwithstanding his brevity of years, is thoroughly grounded in both the principles and application of law, and in addition to a general practice, is counsel for the loan, land and insurance business of Frank L. Smith. Mr. Ahern was born in Goodfarm Township, Livingston County, Ill., January 10, 1881, a son of John A. and Margaret Ahern, natives of Ireland and early settlers of Livingston County.

Clinton James graduated from the Dwight High School in 1889, later attended the University of Notre Dame, Ind., and graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan in the class of 1903. His initial practice was in Pontiac, Livingston County, in partnership with A. C. Norton, and in July, 1905, he came to Dwight, where almost three years have

witnessed his rise from comparative obscurity to a firm place in the professional life of the community. Mr. Ahern has been prominent in Republican politics ever since he became old enough to take an interest in this phase of public affairs, and has been a delegate to the various conventions of his party since 1902. He is active also in fraternal circles, being a member of the Knights of Columbus, Modern Woodmen of America, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks (Pontiac Lodge No. 1019), and the U. of M. He is also a member of the Delta Chi A.X., of the University of Michigan. In religion he is a Roman Catholic. Mr. Ahern has the wit and resource of his Irish forefathers, and the determination and force required of those who would succeed in the professions of law and politics. He is popular and progressive, and a decided gain to the business and social life of the town.

ALLEN, Andrew, underwent his early farming experience on the old homestead in Odell Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he was born March 13, 1863, and in the vicinity of which he has since continued to live. Of his father, William Allen, a personal record appears, together with details in regard to the family history, in another sketch in this connection. Andrew Allen was the fourth of eight children, seven boys and one daughter. The daughter and five sons are living. In early youth he received his education in the district schools of Odell Township, working on the paternal farm until he was twenty-three years of age. At that period he applied himself to farming on land rented from his father, on which he remained until 1892, when he purchased from the latter 151 acres in West Odell Township. Since taking possession of the place he has improved it considerably, in many respects making it one of the most valuable properties in the locality, and becoming known as a progressive and prosperous farmer.

On March 15, 1893, in Odell, Ill., Mr. Allen was married to Lizzie Blair, a daughter of Ransom and Elizabeth (Brooker) Blair, who was born in Livingston County, Ill., August 21, 1872. Her father was an agriculturist of Sunbury Township, where he settled at an early date. Two children have blessed this union, namely: Agnes Daisy, born June 10, 1894, and Charles Edward, born May 5, 1896.

Politically, Mr. Allen is a supporter of the Republican party, and while entertaining no aspirations to public office, has served as School Director. In fraternal circles he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a man of mild temperament and quiet, unassuming manners, but the work accomplished by him indicates the possession of vigorous energy and a spirit of sturdy enterprise.

ALLEN, Charles S., an enterprising and progressive young farmer, whose home is in section 18, Odell Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born on the farm now occupied by him, May 23, 1872, a son of William and Helen (Imrie) Allen. A record of the lives of his parents, to-

gether with particulars concerning the family history, appears elsewhere in this connection. The subject of this sketch attended the common schools in boyhood, completing his studies in the Odell High School. After remaining on the paternal farm until he was twenty-six years old, he located in Dwight, Ill., where he spent between two and three years, being employed for seven months by the Standard Oil Company, and working the rest of the time in connection with a feed and sale store. In the spring of 1901 he went from Dwight to Princeton, Bureau County, Ill. staying there about eight months, then returning to the home place, where he has since been engaged in general farming, as well as in raising stock, his labors being rewarded by good results.

On February 19, 1902, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Helena L. Barnhardt, who was born in Livingston County, Ill., and is a daughter of Jacob and Christina (Beisivanger) Barnhardt, natives of Germany and early settlers of Livingston County. The father of Mrs. Allen was a farmer by occupation and a veteran of the Civil War. He died in 1901, his last years having been passed in Dwight.

In politics Mr. Allen is a supporter of the Republican party, and fraternally is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He and his wife attend divine worship at the Congregational church.

ALLEN, Edward D., an enterprising, energetic and progressive representative of the younger class of the agricultural element of Livingston County, Ill., was born near Odell in the county in which he now resides, November 1, 1874, a son of William and Helen (Imrie) Allen, both natives of Scotland, the father being born in Berwickshire, Scotland, July 4, 1825, a sketch of whose life will be found in an adjoining section of this work. Mrs. Allen, the mother, died June 3, 1903.

Edward D. is the youngest in order of birth of a family of eight children. He grew up on the home farm near Odell, Livingston County, receiving his education in the public schools and the Odell High School, and his career indicates that he inherits the industrious and sturdy traits of his Scotch ancestry. In 1895, being then twenty-one years of age, he came with his father to the farm of 173 acres, just south of Odell, which he now occupies, carrying on farming.

Edward D. Allen was married October 25, 1904, to Miss Ada Wassom, a native of Livingston County, her parents, William and Hannah (Sharp) Wassom, being early settlers of Nevada Township, that county. Mr. Wassom was a farmer by occupation, and for several years was a hardware merchant in Peru, Ill., but he and his wife are now living in retirement in the city of Pontiac. Both are respected members of the Methodist Episcopal church. For some ten years previous to her marriage, Mrs. Allen was a resident of Pontiac. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are

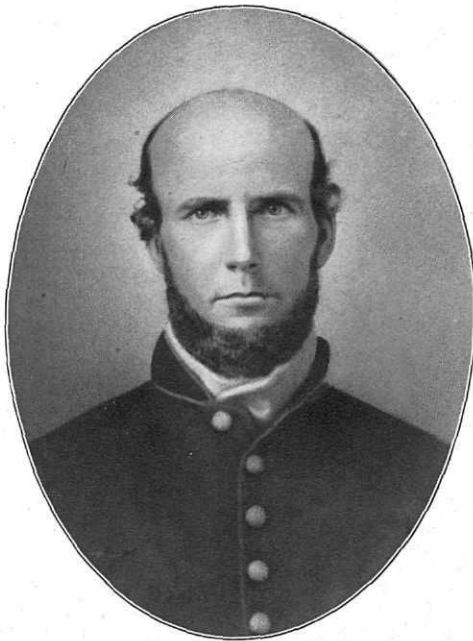
the parents of one child, William Wassom Allen, born June 17, 1908. Mrs. Allen taught school in Livingston County for five years previous to her marriage. She was a very successful teacher, making friends with all with whom she came in contact.

Mr. Allen's political relations are with the Republican party, of which he is an active member, entertaining confidence in the soundness of its principles. Fraternally, he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are regular attendants upon the services at the Methodist Episcopal church in Pontiac, of which his wife is a member. In the prime of vigorous manhood, Mr. Allen has established a high reputation as a useful and industrious citizen, and he and his wife enjoy the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends.

ALLEN, Frank D.—In studying the lives and characters of prominent and prosperous men, we are naturally led to inquire into the secret of their success and the motives which have prompted their actions. Success is a question of genius, and also a matter of experience and sound judgment. Those who stand highest in public confidence and esteem are those who have won their place through the exertion of just those traits that are most desirable for good, reliable citizenship. Frank D. Allen, cashier of the State Bank of Long Point, Ill., born on a farm in Long Point Township, January 20, 1875, and still a young man, has already proven his ability, conservativeness and keen, financial judgment. He is a son of William A. and Sarah (Allen) Allen.

Frank D. Allen was reared on his father's farm, and there began his school days, following up his preliminary schooling with a course at Eureka College, Ill. Returning home he fitted himself for the railway mail service, and at the same time worked on the farm until 1900, when he was appointed to service on the Wabash Railroad, retaining that position until 1904, when he was offered the position of assistant cashier of the Bank of Long Point. A year later this bank was re-organized into the State Bank of Long Point, with Mr. Allen as Cashier, W. A. Moon, of Streator, being President; O. B. Wheeler, Vice-President, and A. B. Moon, B. F. Colehower, O. B. Wheeler, J. L. Smith and W. A. Moon, Directors. The cash capital is \$25,000, and the paid-up capital \$25,000, with a surplus of \$3,000, and the bank pays 3 per cent on time deposits of six months and over. Since its reorganization the bank has gained steadily, and its healthy increase in business demonstrates the confidence the people feel in its management and in its officials, who are men of experience and tested worth.

On June 17, 1908, Mr. Allen married Miss Ethel M. Jones, born at Weldon, Ill., a daughter of Warren and Angeline (Bennett) Jones, residents and farmers in the vicinity of Weldon, DeWitt County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are members of the Christian church. In politics Mr. Allen is very liberal in his views, and in the



WILLIAM H. GARRETSON



MARY E. (GOURLEY) GARRETSON



WILLIAM GAMBLIN



SARAH JANE (BEAMAN) GAMBLIN

spring of 1908 was appointed to the office of Township Treasurer. The same scrupulous care that characterized the work of the young man in the service of the Government is displayed in his public office, and the affairs of the bank. It is this exceptional devotion to whatever duty lies nearest that has so firmly established him in the confidence of the community, and resulted in the advance made by the institution of which he is cashier.

ALLEN, Joel, M. D.—Between his birth in Jefferson County, Ill., November 13, 1827, and his retirement to Pontiac in 1886, Joel Allen crowded into his life that variety of general experience which makes him to-day one of the financially fortunate, morally strong and socially popular men of a progressive community. The memory of this erstwhile indefatigable farmer is enriched with many faces, localities, and public and private service, and his winter evening reminiscences are not only of the quiet enjoyments of the country dweller, but include recollections of the tented fields, the rumbling artillery, long marches and death strewn battlefields of the Civil War. He now is eighty-one years old, but retains much of his old-time vigor, and his interest in the tasks and ambitions of the younger generation remains unabated.

Dr. Allen was born on a farm in Jefferson County, Ill., November 13, 1827, and his youth was a roving one, as his father lived on five farms at different times while he still remained under the family roof. At the age of four years he went to the early subscription school for three months, and five years later he entered school again, and off and on, until he was twenty-two years old. When about seventeen years old he went south to Louisiana to cut cypress timber for logs, remaining five months, and three years later went to Mississippi and chopped cordwood for five months. He was frugal and industrious beyond the average, and what seemed to him quite a fortune had been saved by the time of his marriage on November 13, 1849, to Martha L. Trobridge, a native of the vicinity of Marietta, Ohio. Of this union there were four children, of whom Hardin A. lives in Streator, Ill.; Lydia A. is the wife of A. C. Scott, of Jasper County, Ind.; Laura Bell is the wife of T. C. Taylor, of Pendleton, Ore., and J. Brown lives in San Francisco, Cal. Some time after the death of Mrs. Allen, in Lincoln, Ill., her husband married Emily Tromley, of Birmingham, and of their union there were two children: Gertrude, who lives with her father, and Jessie P., wife of Robert Harms, of Goodland, Ind. For his third wife, Dr. Allen married Mary J. Helm, a native of Illinois, and who died in 1888. On November 12, 1889, he married Mrs. Addie E. (Lee) Pound, widow of Joseph Pound, who, by her first marriage had two children: Mary L., who died at the age of thirteen years, and Alfred Hugh, who died in infancy. Of the latter union there is a son, Wayne Lee, born May 10, 1892. (A sketch of

John S. Lee, the father of Mrs. Allen, will be found later on in this connection.)

After his first marriage Dr. Allen lived on a farm near his father's home for about twelve years, then moved to Logan County, where he looked after some property and engaged in general farming for three years. Here he also engaged in brick manufacturing and made brick for the first court house. Next he bought and lived on a farm in Nebraska Township for ten years, after which he moved to Graymont, Livingston County, and purchased several hundred acres of land. He was successful in farming and stock-raising on a large scale, and when he sold his farm in 1886 and moved to his present home in Pontiac, he was assured a comfortable and even luxurious living for the balance of his life. Added to the faculty of accumulation, Dr. Allen possesses that of wise investment, and he owns, beside his residence, in Pontiac, several lots in business blocks in Graymont.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Dr. Allen was farming in Nebraska Township, and in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to the Thirteenth Army Corps. In all he participated in thirteen battles, and for a time served creditably as hospital steward. He was honorably discharged in July, 1865, and thereupon returned to the occupation in which he rounded out his working life. Dr. Allen's life and efforts command the respect and admiration of his fellow townsmen, and his industry, integrity and public spiritedness place him among the best known and most helpful retired men of the community.

About eight years prior to the war, Dr. Allen studied medicine with his uncle, Dr. C. C. Wilkie, and attended medical lectures at the Medical School and Hospital of New Orleans. During the war he was made army surgeon and for two years had entire charge of the practice of his regiment. After returning from the war, he began practicing in Nebraska Township, and has continued in practice ever since. He has had all the experiences of the pioneer physician.

Mrs. Allen, after the death of her first husband, attended school two years, and then for sixteen years was one of the popular educators of the public schools of Pontiac. She is a daughter of John S. Lee, born near London, Conn., March 22, 1826, a son of Eli and Hepziba (Smith) Lee, who were natives of Connecticut and who there farmed and finished their useful lives. John S. Lee attended the district school and served an apprenticeship as a blacksmith at Colchester, Conn. On Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1846, he married Eunice Packer, whose father was a builder, contractor and farmer. They lived in Colchester for a time, then moved to three different places before coming to Illinois in 1849. They first located near Pleasant Hill, McLean County, Ill., on a farm which he operated in connection with his blacksmithing. After three years, however, he removed to Pontiac, where he engaged in black-

smithing and wagon making with James H. Goff, and thus continued, becoming the best known mechanic in his line in the county. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served three years, participating in fourteen battles, was wounded at the battle of Peachtree Creek and was in the hospital six weeks, and then returned to his regiment. He came near dying of fever in the hospital. His honorable discharge was obtained in July, 1865. In politics he was a Republican, but never desired office, being of a retiring disposition. He was a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Methodist church. There were four children in his family, all of whom are now living: Addie E., who married Dr. Allen; Hattie L., who married J. R. Roggy, and they reside near Hastings, Neb.; Frank P., who married Fannie Loomis, and they reside in Omaha, Neb., where he is a government inspector; and Charles H., who married Sophia Kemp, and they reside in Pullman, Ill., where he is a clerk in the Pullman works.

ALLEN, William, retired farmer, Odell, Livingston County, Ill. This county and State owe much of their improvement and prosperity to the blood of the canny and progressive Scot. Wherever the Scotchman goes he carries with him industry, thrift, a reverence for holy things and a lively interest in education, which makes him a useful citizen and gives him standing in any community with which his lot may be cast. He is always sanely and conservatively patriotic, too, and his influence is for that which really stands for the advancement of the best interests of the commonwealth.

The well known citizen whose name is above was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, July 4, 1825, and it is not impossible that, with or without his knowledge, the date of his birth suggested the advantage that he might derive from becoming an American citizen. His parents were John and Isabella (Hood) Allen, both natives of Scotland and descendants in a long line of Scots whose names are known in the local history of the Land of the Thistle. He came to the United States in 1850, and settled in Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., about two years later, having tarried for a time in Kendall County, Ill. He had been educated in the public schools in his native land and had from early in his life given attention to farming. It was but natural that he should have noted the promise of the rich prairie land of Illinois. He was not long in acquiring a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Esmen Township. Later he made a home near Odell and for the past fourteen years has been a resident of that village, and for the last four years has been living in retirement from active life. For many years he gave attention to general farming and stock raising. On his home farm are noteworthy improvements made by him since the place came into his ownership.

In 1855 Mr. Allen married Miss Ellen Emrie, a native of Scotland and daughter of William and Agnes (Kingham) Emrie, and who came to

America with her father and his family, settling in Illinois where William Emrie died many years ago, his wife following him January 3, 1902. To William and Ellen (Emrie) Allen have been born eight children: John H., William J., Andrew T., David J., Agnes K., Charles S., Edward D. and George A. The last mentioned died at the age of eleven years.

Mr. Allen was reared a Presbyterian in Scotland and has been a consistent member of that church continuously to the present time. After making a careful study of political conditions in America, he allied himself with men who were eventually included in the Republican party, and with that party he is active consistently and helpfully. A man of public spirit and enterprise, he has in various ways done much to advance worthy local interests and no measure which, in his opinion, tended to the advancement of the general prosperity has failed to find in him an earnest advocate and promoter.

The parents of Mr. Allen came to America in 1852 and his father acquired a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. They were both until their death members of the Presbyterian Church. Of their nine children four are living.

ALLEN, William Almon.—After a long and useful life, William Almon Allen has retired and is passing its sunset in peace and quiet and, in the enjoyment of a well-earned competency, making his home at Long Point. Mr. Allen was born in Mansfield, Tioga County, Pa., June 7, 1830, a son of Almon and Polly (Bates) Allen, both natives of Massachusetts, where they were married. They drove overland to Tioga County, Pa. There the father embarked in woolen manufacturing and owned one of the largest woolen mills in Mansfield, and there both mother and father died. The father was born November 23, 1797, was married September 1, 1819, and died March 4, 1871, while his wife was born September 23, 1798, died October 28, 1879. Almon Allen was a public-spirited man, and took an active part in politics, and until 1856 was a Jacksonian Democrat, but as he did not believe in human slavery, he joined the newly-formed Republican party and voted its ticket until his death. He was strong in his convictions of right and wrong, and equally strong in carrying them out. Almon Allen and wife had children as follows: Fordyce Almon, born July 10, 1820, died February 12, 1880, in Mansfield, Pa., and for many years was Principal of the Normal School and one of the leading educators of the county; Darwin D., born February 28, 1822, a machinist and inventor, died May 25, 1891, in North Adams, Mass.; Philena Sybil, born February 10, 1826, died in California February 17, 1908; Charles Harman, born February 11, 1828, died in California September 10, 1904, after having been Principal of the Normal School at San Jose, Cal., for seventeen years, and a very prominent educator; Loring Fenton, born April 22, 1832, is yet a resident of Mansfield, Pa., where he is a merchant, and he and William A. are the only members of the family surviving; George R., born October 31, 1837, died

at Washington, D. C., March 19, 1904, where he had lived retired for many years, although prior to that had been engaged for a long time in the canning business near Syracuse, N. Y.

In boyhood, William Almon Allen attended the common school in his native place, but about 1840 the family went to Chautauqua County, N. Y. Mr. Allen remembers the bitter campaign of that year when the cry was "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," and thinks it the most exciting of many he has passed through. While his father went into a hotel business, young Allen worked at odd jobs until his marriage at Fredonia, N. Y., November 20, 1856, to Miss Sarah Darling, who was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, September 15, 1838, the daughter of Cyrus and Mary (Bond) Darling. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Allen began farming, remaining in Tioga County, Pa., until 1859, when Mr. Allen and a brother decided to go west to seek a fortune. They drove overland with a wagon from Pennsylvania to Livingston County, Ill., when Mr. Allen traded his team for a claim in Long Point Township, on Section 17, consisting of 160 acres, of which about forty acres had been broken. In the fall of 1859, Mr. Allen sent for his wife and baby. A small log house had been erected on the farm, and in it the re-united family began their pioneer life. Mr. Allen began the terrible struggle of redeeming his land, and establishing a substantial home for his little family. Streator was not then on the map, and all the grain had to be hauled by team to Ottawa, the trip taking two days, and yet, since his advent to the county, all this wild prairie land has been converted into fertile fields, prosperous communities, thronging with contented, happy people, and Mr. Allen has borne his part in effecting these wonderful changes.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen have had children as follows: Florence, born in Tioga County, Pa., November 16, 1857, married M. M. Miller, and they have a large family and are among the heavy landowners of Long Point Township; Charlotte Antoinette, born March 8, 1861, on the old homestead, married John McDowell, a farmer in Webster County, Mo.; Charles F., born September 26, 1862, was editor of "The Advocate" of Long Point, but he died December 2, 1903; Carrie Isabella, born July 1, 1868, is at home; Willie, born November 12, 1872, died March 3, 1875; Frank D., born January 20, 1875; Lena Ella, born August 1, 1879, married Floyd Lamp, now operating the old homestead farm on Section 17, Long Point Township, and they have one son, Fred, born September 26, 1905. For half a century Mr. Allen has been identified with the growth and prosperity of the county, remaining on the farm until the fall of 1899, when he bought a pleasant home in Long Point, to which he retired. His wife's health had been failing for some time, and, although everything was done to restore it, including an extended trip through the west, she passed away May 11, 1890.

Mr. Allen's influence and vote have always been given to the Republican party, but he has steadily refused to accept public office, preferring to do what he could as a private citizen for

the public good. He has passed through many changes and fully appreciates the comforts that are now enjoyed, and yet, as he speaks of the pioneer days, it is easy to tell that they had their pleasures for the noble men and women who braved so many hardships and dangers to bring about the present prosperity.

AMMONS, Jeremiah.—Born in Greene County, Pa., in November, 1833. Jeremiah Ammons is a product of his own industry and resourcefulness, having received very limited schooling in his youth and experienced but little incentive to make aught of himself, save the most plodding of farmers. His parents, George and Sarah (Wright) Ammons, were natives of Pennsylvania, and had, besides Jeremiah, who was the eighth oldest, seven sons and seven daughters, all dependent upon the meager resources of a rather small Pennsylvania farm.

Jeremiah left his humble home in the East in 1856, and worked his way westward, finally reaching Bureau County, Ill., where he worked on a farm for a year. He then moved to Newton Township, Livingston County, bought a 40-acre tract of land, and subsequently added forty more acres in the same section. The cultivation of this land engaged his time and attention until 1905, when he sold his property and bought eight lots and an old house in Cornell, in which he since has made his home. At the present time this old house is hardly recognizable, so many are the changes that have been wrought by the present tenant. It has nine rooms, is well equipped with modern conveniences, and is a remarkably comfortable as well as hospitable residence. As a farmer Mr. Ammons was thorough and practical, and he made a comfortable living as a general farmer and stock-raiser. His property increased in value from year to year, and the sale of the same rendered him practically independent for the balance of his life.

On August 19th, 1866, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ammons and Elizabeth Rinehart, who was born in Greene County, Pa., October 5, 1845, a daughter of Simon and Caroline (Pettitt) Rinehart and grand-daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Church) Rinehart, and Nathaniel and Rachel (Wilson) Pettitt, all natives of Pennsylvania. The parents of Mrs. Ammons came early to Bureau County, Ill., where she was educated in the public schools, and where her father died May 10, 1866. Her mother subsequently married George Ammons, and moved to Allen County, Kan., where she died in July, 1898, her second husband following her in 1900. To Mr. and Mrs. Ammons have been born five children: Winslow, of Cherokee, Iowa; Irene, wife of C. D. Hart, of Newton Township; Willis, who died at the age of one and a half years; and Wilbur, who died at the age of five months, and Emery S. who died in infancy. Mr. Ammons has built up a reputation for solid worth in the community of which he has been a resident for thirty-one years, and his contribution to the agricultural and general upbuilding of the county merits sincere and lasting appreciation.

Mr. Ammons is a Republican in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Ammons has a war record of which any man might well be proud. Enlisting in 1861 in Company B, Ninety-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Tiscawa, Ill., he first served under the famous "Black Eagle" General, John A. Logan; later under General U. S. Grant. He was in the battle of Champion Hills, in the rear of Vicksburg, and was struck in the side with a minnie ball, and was shot in the neck. The coat he wore in that engagement is still preserved in the museum at Princeton, Ill. As demonstrating how much a man can endure and still live, Mr. Ammons tells that his clothes were literally shot off him. He lay in the hospital at Memphis, Tenn., for some time, and was then transferred to Madison, but at the end of three months he was able to join his regiment. He was again wounded at Jacksonville, and was in the hospital two months, and during his life as a soldier he was not spared any of the hardships and privations incident to it. He was honorably discharged from the service in 1863, and returned to his home. Naturally he is a member of the G. A. R. and takes a great interest in his Post.

ANKERS, Thomas G., (deceased).—The late Thomas G. Ankers was a successful farmer and highly respected citizen near Cropsey, Livingston County, where he built up a lasting reputation as a man of traits of character and uprightness of living which could not fail to win for him the confidence of his business associates and the friendship of all who knew him intimately. Mr. Ankers was born in Birmingham, England, August 7, 1842, and he died in Cropsey, Ill., March 31, 1895. By trade he was a shoemaker and followed that calling before emigrating to America in 1871. After landing in New York, he remained there for a time when he went to Fairbury, Livingston County, where he remained two years, after which he took up land in Ford County and developed a fine farm. Mr. Ankers was the only child of his parents, who having died in his early youth, he was reared by his grandparents.

On October 15, 1874, Mr. Ankers married Catherine Gordon, a native of the Isle of Man, where her father followed the occupation of a farmer. Mrs. Ankers came to America when twenty-eight years of age. She and Mr. Ankers met in New York, and after he was established here in Illinois, he sent for her to come west and they were married. They had a family of two boys and four girls, born to them.

Mrs. Ankers was one of eight children, four boys and four girls. Her mother afterwards joined her and died at her home. Mr. Ankers was a Republican in politics, in religious belief was a Methodist, and always lived according to the teachings of his faith. Although more than a decade has passed since his death, his memory is tenderly cherished by his family, and he is remembered in the community where for so many years he lived and bore his part in the life about him.

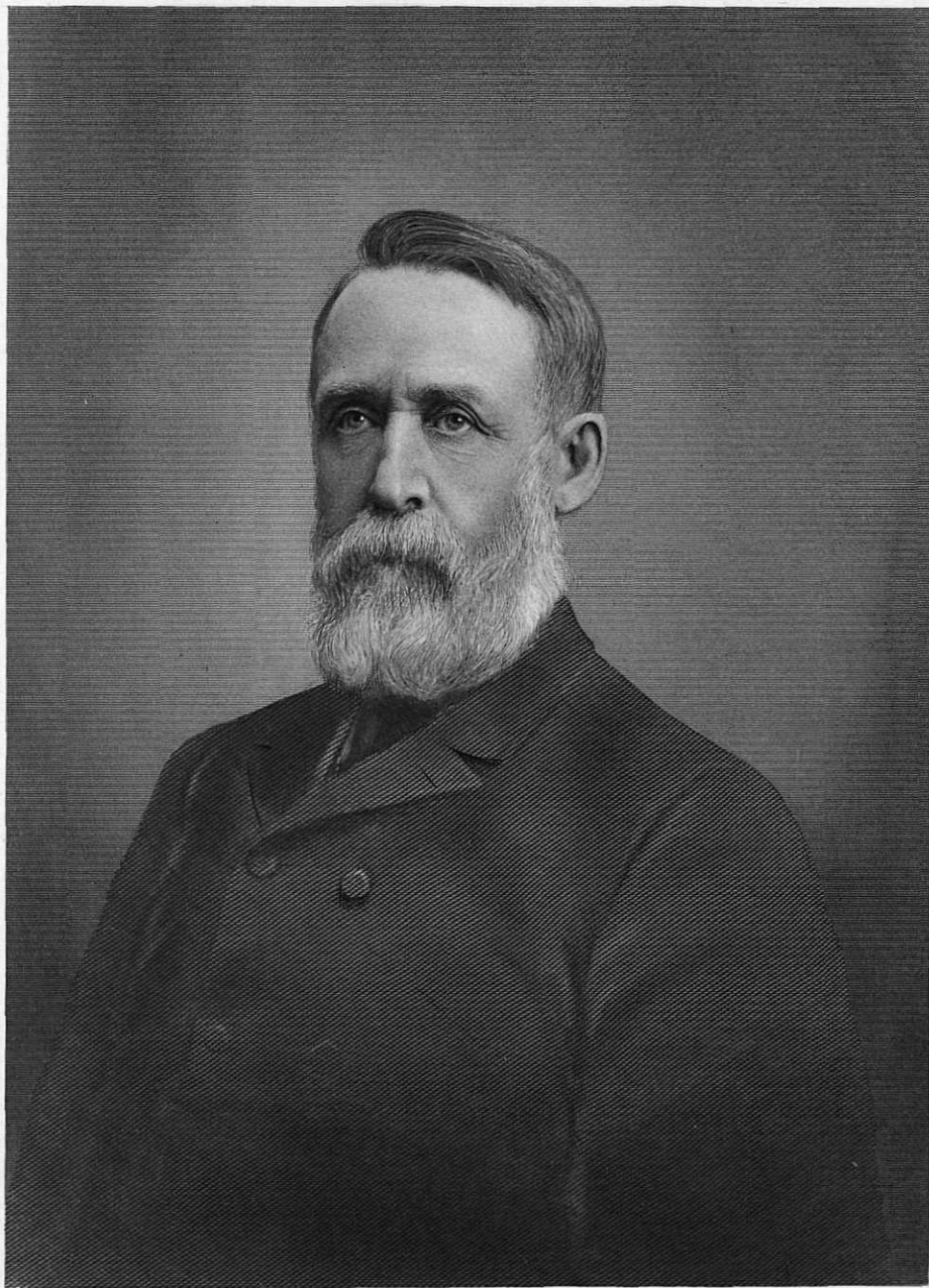
ANTRIM, William J., a prosperous farmer in Amity Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he owns 360 acres of highly productive and well improved land, was born in Clinton County, Ohio, March 26, 1863, a son of John C. and Anna (Hallam) Antrim, both natives of Ohio, the former born in 1836 and the latter in 1837. Grandfather Antrim and his wife, Elizabeth (Cline) Antrim, spent the last years of their lives in Iowa. John Hallam and his wife, the maternal grandparents, died in Missouri. John C. Antrim was educated in Ohio, and, in 1863, settled in Amity Township, Livingston County, there buying sixty acres of land. By degrees he acquired more lands, becoming eventually the owner of about 800 acres. He now lives in retirement at Pontiac in the same county. In politics, he has long been a Republican and has rendered faithful public service in local offices. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church. Their family consisted of nine children, of whom two are deceased.

William J. Antrim was reared on the home farm, receiving his education in the common schools, and has followed farming during all of his mature life, besides his general farming operations, devoting considerable attention to stock-raising. As already stated, his present land-holdings comprise 360 acres, and he is classed among the most substantial farmers of his locality.

The marriage of Mr. Antrim took place on November 30, 1887, on which date Susan A. Carroll became his wife. Mrs. Antrim is a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Simon S. and Mary J. (Gunn) Carroll. Her father was born in 1819. From Pennsylvania the parents moved to Iowa, where their last years were spent. Five children have graced the married life of Mr. and Mrs. Antrim, namely: Glenn, born July 3, 1889; Carroll J., born March 2, 1892; Dorothy R., born April 10, 1898; Sarah K., born May 9, 1901; and Mary A., born October 16, 1902.

Mr. Antrim is a supporter of the Republican party but has never been inclined to seek public office. His religious connection is with the Evangelical Association, of which Mrs. Antrim is also a member.

ARMSTRONG, Melville Cox, the period of whose residence in Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., measures nearly three-score years, and whose record is that of one of the best farmers and most upright citizens of his locality, was born in Sugar Grove, Delaware County, Ohio, February 5, 1850. His father, Rev. George Armstrong, was a native of Dublin, Ireland, where his birth occurred in 1801, and his mother, Mrs. Ann M. (Richards-Van Wormer) Armstrong, was born in Johnstown, Pa., March 10, 1822. Rev. George Armstrong was but thirteen years old when brought to the United States, and his first home in this country was in Columbus, Ohio. He attended public school for some time, and, on reaching a suitable age, entered college, working his way along and obtaining a thorough education as a result of his own efforts. He was one of the



B. H. Sawyer

most apt and diligent students in the institution where he studied, and was graduated with high honors. In early boyhood, before leaving his native land, he had experienced religion, becoming a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After completing his college course he entered the gospel ministry, his work beginning in Delaware County, Ohio, where in January, 1849, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Anna M. (Richards) Van Wormer. After laboring there until September, 1850, he moved to Livingston County, Ill., preaching his first sermon in a little village in Avoca Township. He had made the journey from Ohio with teams and, on arriving in his new location, he traded a span of small horses for 160 acres of land in Indian Grove Township, on which he put in a crop in 1851, having broken some of the land and built a log cabin. The prairie was partly covered with water and was a wilderness, but one or two houses standing between his rude dwelling and the village of Fairbury. Deer were abundant, and were often fed with the cattle when the fodder shock was hauled. Wolves prowled around in large numbers, howling savagely in the darkness, and made it unsafe to go about at night. Wild ducks, geese and cranes were so thick that when a shot was fired, the flocks flew up in such numbers as to impede the vision for a time. In the fall of 1851, the father sold his 160-acre farm in Indian Grove Township for \$600, receiving payment in gold. His boys were growing up, and he was then known as a circuit rider, going on horseback to meet his appointments and visiting the members of his congregation at their homes. He and his wife reared four children, as follows: Melville C., Elmer Yocum, Elizabeth Jane, and Martha. Elmer Y. makes his home with the subject of this sketch, and has served some time as Collector of Avoca Township. Elizabeth J. is the wife of John Tuttle, a blacksmith by trade, born in New Bloomington, Ohio, and now a resident of Pontiac, Livingston County. They have three children: Melville, Orval and Ollie. Martha Armstrong married Thomas Owen, a farmer near Fairbury, and six children have been born to them, namely: Fred, William, Annie, Lizzie, Bertie and Robert.

The family remained near Fairbury until 1860, when Rev. Mr. Armstrong sold his property and removed with three first-class teams and a complete new outfit to Benton County, Mo., where he bought 240 acres of land on the Osage River, near Warsaw, the garden spot of the State. The land in that region was valuable, and before the outbreak of the Civil War, others had attempted to purchase farms there, but had been denied an opportunity because they were Abolitionists. When hostilities began, the Confederates, or bushwhackers, confiscated George Armstrong's teams and stock, and then told him that if he would trade his 240 acres for 120 acres in Iowa, they would return the property seized. This they did through a Mr. William L. Donnell, one of their number, who acted in a friendly way toward him. George Armstrong stood firmly by his principles as a strong Union man, and, at one

time, narrowly escaped serious injury, if not death, at the hands of the guerrillas, by giving a Masonic sign that was recognized by nine of the marauding party. When his stock and teams were returned he received with them in exchange for his Missouri farm, a deed to 120 acres in Wapello County, Ia., near Ottumwa. This deed, however, was never recorded, as ascertained by the subject of this sketch, through an abstract of title secured by him in 1901. In accordance with the orders of the bushwhackers the father left Missouri in 1862. He found that the Iowa place was of little value, and in June, of the same year, he returned with six yoke of cattle to Livingston County, locating near Fairbury. Soon afterwards he bought 84 acres of land in Avoca Township, to which he moved in the spring of 1863, starting again to build a home for his family, and on this he lived until June 2, 1864, when death terminated his busy and useful life. He was a remarkably industrious man filling all his ministerial appointments and attending to the details of other religious duties while continuing his farming operations. In all his business transactions he was absolutely reliable, and had many tried and true friends in his neighborhood who fully appreciated the sterling qualities of his character. He was known as an Abolitionist in early life, being bitterly opposed to slavery in all its forms, and during the Civil War, was an unflinching supporter of the Union cause, even when his life was at stake. He was a zealous supporter of the public school system and of meritorious charitable enterprises. His convictions were strong and he acted up to them, but his friendships were warm and he was loved and esteemed for his kindly traits. It may be truly said of him that the world was made better by his having lived in it. Fraternally, Rev. George Armstrong was connected with the A. F. & A. M., to which he had belonged for many years. His worthy widow long survived him, dying December 24, 1899, at the age of seventy-seven years, eight months and fourteen days.

"Mel" Armstrong, as he is best known in Livingston County, the eldest child born to his parents, was but six months old when brought by them to Livingston County. In early life he did his share in reclaiming the wild land, and has seen large areas transformed from a wilderness into pleasant homes and productive farms. Churches and schoolhouses now greet the eye where the Indian wigwags stood in his boyhood, and deer, wolves and wild game abounded. He received his education in the district schools of Avoca Township, and worked with his father on the farm until the latter's death, afterwards taking charge of the homestead place and caring for his mother. On October 13, 1877, he was united in marriage with Nettie Williams, born in Hennipen, Ill., March 24, 1861, a daughter of John H. and Charlotte (Wallen) Williams. Mrs. Williams, who was a native of Hennipen, Ill., died when her daughter, Nettie, was but a child. After that event (in 1874) Mr. Williams moved to Hutchinson, Kan., where he is now engaged in mercantile pursuits. He is a native of Johns-

town, Pa., and he and his wife had six children, of whom but two are now living, the other being Mrs. Armstrong's brother, George, who was born in Fairbury, but has been for some years a resident of Bloomington. Of those deceased, Minnie, who was the wife of John Geary, of Stafford, Kan., have five children, namely: Ruth, Ralph, Marshall, Lucille and one who died in infancy. The other Williams children, Vina, Harry and John, died in childhood. For about four years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong lived on the old home farm, and then, on February 9, 1884, Mr. Armstrong rented 160 acres of land of Judge McDowell, situated in Section 33, Avoca Township, which has since been his home. He and his wife are the parents of four children, as follows: Nellie, born September 30, 1880; Lillian, born December 4, 1883; Roy, born June 9, 1886, and Harry, born July 6, 1888. Lillian is the wife of Grant Sloan, a farmer, of Avoca Township, and has one child, Bernice. The sons are now in charge of the farming operations, and under the supervision of their father the farm has been made one of the most productive in the township, the Armstrongs being considered among the most successful agriculturists in the locality. They keep a good grade of stock. The home presided over by Mrs. Armstrong, a most amiable and estimable woman, who enjoys the cordial respect and good will of all who know her, is one of the most pleasant in this portion of Livingston County, and is pervaded by a wholesome moral and religious influence. The sons and daughters received a good practical education and are useful members of society.

Politically, Mr. Armstrong is a Republican, as are also his sons, and has always taken an earnest interest in the success of his party. He has served as School Director with diligence and fidelity. His religious connection is with the Methodist Church, his wife being a member of the Christian denomination. Both are members of the Court of Honor. Mr. Armstrong is among those who were deeply interested in the temperance movement that swept the State in the spring of 1908, and his views on this subject are shared by his sons, both of whom cast their votes at that time for the local-option ticket. In the twenty-two years of his life, Roy Armstrong has never visited a saloon.

BAGNALL, P. D., who has been successfully engaged in the plumbing business in Pontiac, Ill., and is regarded as a man of high character and a useful member of the community, was born in Mercer County, Pa., November 7, 1866, a son of B. S. and Rebecca D. (Noble) Bagnall, natives of Pennsylvania, the birth of the father having occurred in Mercer County, where both are still living, their home being in the town of Mercer. William Bagnall, the paternal grandfather, was of English nativity and was brought to Mercer County, Pa., by his parents when he was sixteen years old. He married a Miss Lowash, and both died in the aforesaid county. On the maternal side, the grandfather Noble married a Miss Scott, sister of Thomas A. Scott, formerly president of

the Pennsylvania Railroad. B. S. Bagnall has always been a farmer by occupation. He is a veteran of the Civil War, in which he served two years. Politically, he is a Republican, and in religious belief, he and his wife are adherents of the Methodist Episcopal faith.

P. D. Bagnall was reared on the home farm, and his education was obtained in the public schools of his neighborhood. In youth he learned the trade of a plumber in New Castle, Pa., and after there following his occupation for several years, moved to Pontiac, Ill., July 21, 1896, establishing himself in the plumbing line. In this he has been very successful, and owns his place of business at No. 120 North Howard Street, and his residence, at No. 522 Grove Street.

On September, 1892, Mr. Bagnall was married to Prudence Shaw, a native of the same county in which he was born.

In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bagnall is a man of good business qualities, and devotes his attention closely to the affairs of his firm. He has gradually acquired a fine patronage, and enjoys the respect and confidence of his customers, and of the public in general.

BAKER, Isaac H.—Prominent among the men whose labor, faith and character have aided in the earliest as well as later development of the town of Dwight, is Isaac H. Baker, who arrived here in 1855, and ever since has made this his home. Probably as much as any man in the town, Mr. Baker has set his seal upon its constructive industries, and on every hand he is privileged to behold the buildings he has erected and the enterprises he has established. In early life he was fortunate in finding his rightful place in the toil of the world, for mechanical ingenuity led him to adopt the trade of carpentering, which is the keynote of his success in later years. This trade he learned and followed for several years in Bedford County, Pa., where he was born October 16, 1825, and where his parents, Nathan and Barbara Baker, natives of Chester County, Pa., lived and worked at farming.

With his trade well in hand, Mr. Baker moved from Bedford County to North Madison, Ind., at the age of twenty-one years, and while there he had charge of the construction of the first railroad in Indiana, eighty-seven miles long and running between Madison and Indianapolis. When he arrived in Dwight in 1855 two buildings graced the present town-site, and he at once started building as a partner of Mr. McWilliams, with whom he remained one season. He thereafter worked at carpentering and building for many years, and also helped to construct the Chicago & Alton Railroad, at the same time operating a hotel for several years. Desiring to avail himself of the farming possibilities of Nebraska, he bought two sections of land in that State, and while still continuing his active interests in Livingston County, spent two summers in improving this property. For some years he kept the Nebraska farm, but finally sold it and invested

in property in Dwight, the same making him one of the largest owners of real estate in the town.

In 1870 Mr. Baker established a furniture business in a new brick building of his own construction, and after conducting the same alone for several years, took in as his partner his son Charles, which arrangement enabled him to retire from active life in 1886, and to occupy his fine residence on East Mason Avenue, which since has been his home. He has been an active promoter of the essentials of community existence, has furthered education, clean politics, social purity and benevolence, and has ever been ready with his purse or influence to help those upon whom temporary misfortune had laid a detaining hand. The home life of Mr. Baker has reflected his kindness of heart and generosity, and has been of a particularly happy nature. March 30, 1848, he married Isabella Spear, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Robert and Agnes Spear, the former of whom was a merchant by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are the parents of three sons and three daughters, the latter of whom are all deceased. Of the sons, Charles still conducts his father's furniture business; George also lives in Dwight; and John makes his home with his father. The daughter Agnes, died in early life, Ella died in 1880, and Margaret in 1882. Mr. Baker is one of the most genial and likable of the town's early residents, and his more than half century association with its upbuilding has been a lasting benefit to all concerned.

BAKER, William E., who has lived in Livingston County, Ill., for nearly a half a century, and during a large part of this period has been one of the best known men within its limits, is now a leading citizen of Pontiac, Ill., where he took up his residence in 1890. Mr. Baker was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., September 15, 1839, a son of Increase and Julia (Canfield) Baker, natives of New York State. Increase Baker, whose business was that of a wholesale coal dealer, went from New York to Ohio at a very early period, locating in Cincinnati, removing thence to Philadelphia, where he died in 1876. In commercial circles his standing was high, and, as a man and citizen, his record was beyond reproach. His worthy widow still survives, her home being in Minneapolis.

William E. Baker received his early education in the schools of Cincinnati, and at the age of twenty years came to Illinois, settling in Livingston County, where his father had previously become the owner of considerable land situated in Broughton and Sullivan Townships, which Mr. Baker improved. In 1874, he relinquished agricultural pursuits, and established himself in the town of Dwight, residing there six years. At the end of this period he removed to Fairbury, Ill., where he spent the following ten years, changing his location then from Fairbury to Pontiac.

On October 28, 1864, Mr. Baker was united in marriage with Sarah Cheesebrough, who was born in New York State, a daughter of Saxon B. and Isabel (Conkey) Cheesebrough, who came

to Livingston County, Ill., in 1856, and were among the earliest settlers in Sullivan Township. Six children resulted from this union, as follows: Albert L., Clark E., Helen, Della, Stephen and Isabel. The youngest son, Stephen, received his education in the Pontiac High School.

In politics, Mr. Baker is a Democrat, and has taken a conspicuous part in the public affairs of Livingston County. He has served as Supervisor of Sullivan Township and Indian Grove Township, and while a resident of Fairbury, held the office of Postmaster for some years. From 1890 to 1894, he acted in the capacity of County Treasurer of Livingston County. Since 1905, he has served as City Tax Collector of Pontiac, officiating also as Justice of the Peace. In fraternal circles, Mr. Baker is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., being a Royal Arch Mason. He is very popular throughout the community, and socially he and his excellent wife are held in high esteem.

BALBACH, Paul A., well and favorably known in Livingston County, Ill., as President of the Pontiac Farmers' Grain Company, was born in Pike Township, same county, April 14, 1871. His parents, Paul G. and Elizabeth (Gentes) Balbach, were natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1851, first locating in Woodford County, Ill., making their home in El Paso, Ill., in 1854, and not long afterward settling in Pike Township, Livingston County. There Paul G. Balbach bought 80 acres of land and later added thereto until his landed possessions comprised 480 acres. His last days were spent in Chenoa, McLean County, Ill., where he died April 11, 1904, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife passed away in 1878, when thirty-nine years old. Jacob Balbach, the paternal grandfather, a German by nativity, came to Illinois in 1851, and the closing period of his life was passed at Lacon, Marshall County. Paul G. Balbach and his wife were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are still living. Politically the father was a Democrat, and served nine years as School Treasurer, several years as Trustee, and about six years as Collector. In fraternal circles he was identified with the A. F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F. He and his wife were members of the German Lutheran Church.

Paul A. Balbach was reared to farm life and educated in the common schools. For several years he followed farming, and now owns 160 acres of the paternal estate, the operation of which he supervises. In 1906 he organized the Pontiac Farmers' Grain Company, which began business April 1, of that year, and has since been very successful, starting with one elevator and now conducting three. Two of these are located at Pontiac, one being on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and one on the Wabash System. The third is at Cayuga, Livingston County. The company was organized with a capital of \$7,000, which has been increased to \$15,000. The quantity of grain handled from April 1, 1906, to Feb. 1, 1907, was as follows: Oats, 112,373 bushels; corn, 216,020 bushels; and wheat, 3,749 bushels,

making an aggregate of 332,142 bushels. The gross earnings were \$3,807.46; total expenditures, \$2,224.83—leaving the net earnings, \$1,582.63. The officers of the Company are: Paul A. Balbach, President; Oliver Buland, Treasurer; and George Brunskill, General Manager. The following gentlemen are directors: William Lehman, J. W. Porter, William Collins, Oliver Buland, J. E. Bentley, P. A. Balbach, M. H. Nolan, Henry Branz, A. G. Jacobs, Edwin Crego, and Chauncey Street. As the head of the concern, Mr. Balbach has displayed excellent business ability, and enjoys the confidence of its patrons, as do the other executive officials.

On January 16, 1895, Mr. Balbach was united in marriage with Catherine Power, a native of Livingston County and a daughter of Lawrence Power, an early settler in the county. One child has resulted from this union, namely: Dymna Pauline, born January 20, 1896.

In politics, Mr. Balbach is a Republican, and is prominent and influential in the local councils of the party. He is now serving his third term as Supervisor of Pontiac Township, and has served one term as Alderman of the city. Fraternally, he is identified with the I. O. O. F., Pontiac Lodge No. 262; and is also affiliated with the M. W. A. His religious connection is with the Lutheran Church, while Mrs. Balbach is an adherent of the Catholic faith.

BANCROFT, Luther R., Pontiac, Livingston County, Ill. Valuable as is character to a man during the active years of his life, it may be said to attain to its 'ull significance only after he has passed away. Then, in the calm and deliberate judgment of those among whom he has lived and labored, is determined his true place in the community—then becomes manifest the sum of character in all its details. The career of the man whose name appears above fully illustrates this fact. Highly regarded as he was by his neighbors during his active life, his memory is cherished with an affection even greater than that in which he was held before his death.

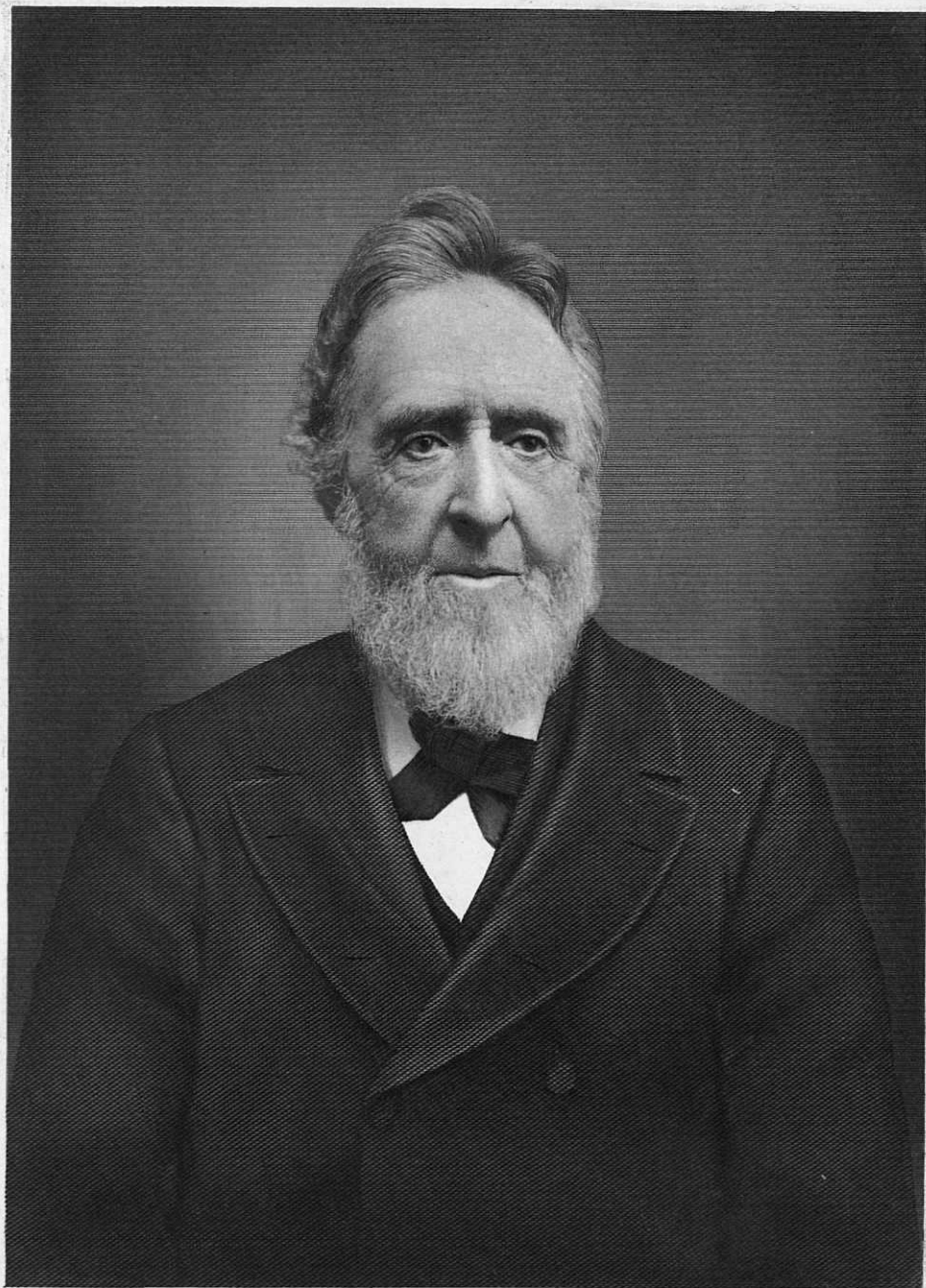
Luther R. Bancroft was of English blood, his parents coming from England to America before his birth. Born in Wayne County, N. Y., May 7, 1815, he was educated in the common schools near his home and early in life learned and worked at the tailor's trade. Later he engaged in the lumber business at Macedon, Wayne County, N. Y. In 1861 he came to Livingston County, Ill., and bought twenty-two acres of land a mile and a half east of Pontiac, which he speedily converted into a promising fruit farm. He began his enterprises with small fruit, including strawberries and other berries, reserving a few acres which he planted with trees and eventually developed into a fine orchard. It may be said of him that he was the first, in any business sense, to introduce fruit for domestic purposes in his part of the State and that, during the full term of his devotion to the business, his watchword was improvement.

Mr. Bancroft married Miss Jane Wanzer, a native of New York, in 1836, and she bore him

three children, one of whom is Mrs. Henry C. Jones of Pontiac, a name that is familiar in the country round about as that of the proprietor of an artificial ice plant, while the three others are deceased. Mrs. Bancroft died in March, 1856, and in March, 1859, Mr. Bancroft married as his second wife Miss Sarah H. Green, who was born at Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., May 9, 1827, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Herrick) Green, the former a native of Rhode Island, the latter a native of New York. By this second marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft became the parents of one son, James, who is in business with his brother-in-law, and a daughter, Edna, who is Mrs. James Donohue of Odell.

Early in life Mr. Bancroft became a Mason and was a consistent and active member of that beneficent order to the day of his death. With respect to religious conviction, the trend of his thought led him to the adoption of the Universal faith. Politically he affiliated with the Republican party. Before coming to Illinois he filled for many years the office of Postmaster at Macedon, N. Y. During his early years he was far from robust physically and, perhaps, did not entirely outgrow his physical infirmity during all his after career. He died at his home near Pontiac March 30, 1892, and was buried in Pontiac cemetery. His widow lived on the homestead until October, 1902, when she sold the place and became a member of the household of her son-in-law at Pontiac.

BARNES, David W., a retired farmer of Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County, Ill., now residing on West Ash Street, Fairbury, same county, was born in Greene County, Pa., July 28, 1847, a son of John and Sarah (White) Barnes. The latter was a daughter of Elder David White, who was converted to the Christian faith under the preaching of the famous Alexander Campbell. For sixty years, Rev. White, who was a Scotchman by birth, was a minister of the gospel, expounding the doctrine of the Campbellite creed throughout the East, West and South. At the end of this long period of devoted service in the cause of the Divine Master, he died in Greene County, Pa., when ninety-seven years old. In that county John Barnes was engaged in farming until 1868, when he sold his land there and removed to Illinois, buying 80 acres of partially improved land in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County. This he developed into a comfortable and productive homestead, which he occupied many years. Ultimately, he took up his residence in Cropsey, Ill., dying there about the year 1888, at the age of eighty-three years. He was a man of high moral character and upright life, strong in mental faculties, firm in adherence to his convictions, and always ready to support any worthy movement intended to advance the public interests. Politically, he was an old-fashioned Jeffersonian Democrat. His good wife survived him until 1904, passing away when eighty-two years old, ardent in the Christian faith as early instilled into her mind by her pious father. To John and



John Gour

Sarah (White) Barnes were born eight children, of whom one died in infancy and six are still living, as follows: Harvey, a well-to-do retired farmer, residing in Fairmount, W. Va.; David W.; Martha, wife of Clint Cumston, who lives at Anchor, McLean County, Ill.; Maria, who married Jacob Warrick, of Fairbury, Ill.; William, a leading attorney of Peoria; and Henry, a banker, of Cropsey.

David W. Barnes received a good common school education in Greene County, Pa., and assisted his father on the farm until the family moved to Livingston County in 1868. In 1870 he secured a position as clerk in Abner Beale's general store, and in 1872, he worked in Walton Bros'. branch store in Potosi, Ill. In 1873 he went to Saybrook, Ill., where Mr. Beale had bought a general stock, and was employed there until the latter's death in 1874, when he made a trip to Denver, Colo., to see the country. There he worked for awhile, and in the winter came back to Potosi. His next employment was near Mahomed, Ill., where he rented land in 1875 and began his agricultural career. Thence he moved to Champaign, Ill., which was his home until 1880. In that year he returned to Cropsey Ridge and again took up farming, buying 80 acres of land. In 1900 he sold this farm and bought 160 acres near Strawn, Ill., which in the fall of the same year he sold in 1901, purchasing 240 acres in Palo Alto County, Iowa. In 1875 Mr. Barnes had turned his attention to buying, feeding and shipping cattle, hogs and sheep, and for ten years he followed this occupation, in which his operations were very successful. In 1901 he left his farm, moving to Fairbury, Ill., and purchasing a fine residence on West Ash Street, which he occupies in comfortable leisure, having virtually withdrawn from active business pursuits.

The marriage of Mr. Barnes took place in the fall of 1875, when he wedded Mary J. Haines, born in Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Samuel Haines, also a native of that State. Three daughters blessed this union, namely: Lizzie, wife of Fred Stafford, who resides near Cropsey, Ill.; Maggie, wife of William Humphrey, a farmer living near Cropsey; and Eva, who is with her parents. Mrs. Barnes has devoted her life assiduously to the care of her home and the mental and moral development of her children, and now, in her declining years, she is reaping the reward of a mother's love. The daughters have been reared in a Christian home, surrounded by the comforts of life and receiving a thorough education. Eva, the youngest, is a graduate of the Fairbury High School, where she took the honors of her class in 1907. She is secretary of the Sunday School in which she is an active worker, and is also president of the Junior League. All of the family are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Barnes has been one of the most able and faithful officials of his township for forty years, and has been identified with the best interests of Livingston County. He has never failed in an obligation, either verbal or written, and his word is considered as good as his bond. He has always

stood firmly by his convictions of right, and has exerted a potent influence in advancing the cause of temperance. He is inherently a temperance man, being descended from a race of men who were notably temperate in all things. During the great temperance reformation of 1908 he was a prominent figure in his locality. Mr. Barnes has taken an intelligent and discriminating interest in the political issues of the day and, as above indicated, has rendered efficient public service in various capacities, having served at different times as Road Commissioner, Assessor and Justice of the Peace.

BARR, Josiah Newton, a retired farmer of Es-men Township, Livingston County, Ill., greatly respected by his neighbors and by a wide acquaintance, a gallant veteran of the Civil War, and for many years one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his locality, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., July 6, 1833. His father, Jacob Barr, and his mother, Susanna (Barr) Barr, were both natives of that State and County, the former born in 1800, and the latter in 1807. David Barr, the paternal grandfather, and Jacob Barr, grandfather on the maternal side, were farmers of German descent, and were born in Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives. Jacob Barr, the father, began his active life as a farmer in the Keystone State, where his marriage with Susanna Barr took place. In 1836 he moved to Clarke County, Ohio, and bought 160 acres of heavily timbered land. Only ten acres of it had been cleared, and after he had completed the arduous task of clearing the remainder, he died in 1847, when forty-six years of age. His wife had passed away two years before. In politics he was a supporter of the Whig party. He and his wife were leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Josiah N. Barr was the fourth of nine children, six of whom were boys. The other surviving members of the family are: Susan (Mrs. Kemp), of Dallas County, Ia.; Laura B. (Mrs. Foy), of Washington County, Neb.; Jacob, of Lawrence County, Ill.; Cyrus, of Dwight, Ill.; and Benjamin F., of Wabash County, in the same State. The subject of this sketch received his education in the district schools of Clarke County, Ohio, and, the death of his father having occurred when he was fifteen years old, he then began working out by the month, his wages being seven dollars monthly in summer, with his board as the winter compensation. In 1855 he left Ohio, journeying to Kane County, Ill., and hiring out by the month there for one year. At the end of this period he moved to Livingston County, and bought 160 acres of raw prairie land in Es-men Township. On this, in 1858, he built a small house, gradually improving the place until he now has a comfortable home and other substantial buildings, the residence being surrounded by trees. At the time of the death of his devoted wife, in 1895, he withdrew from active farm work, and has since lived in retirement, enjoying the leisure so well merited by many years of faithful toil.

Mr. Barr enlisted, August 8, 1862, in Company M, First Regiment, Illinois Light Artillery, serving under General Grant, but not being under heavy fire until the battle of Chickamauga. He took part in all the severe fighting of the campaign under Sherman, at Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and the Siege of Atlanta. After the capture of Atlanta, he went with General Thomas' command to Tennessee. He was mustered out of service at Chicago, July 24, 1865.

On December 24, 1872, in Pontiac, Ill., Mr. Barr was united in marriage with Tinnie L. Annis, born in London, England, February 10, 1852. When Mrs. Barr was a little child, her parents died. Her name was Helen Chalmers, and it was changed at the time of her adoption by Mrs. Annis, who brought her to New York, taking her to Nebraska at the age of eight years, where she remained until her eighteenth year. Then, Mrs. Annis having died, she came to Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Barr became the parents of four children, as follows: Luta A., born July 28, 1877, who is at home; Lorenzo N., born April 25, 1880, who took a course in pharmacy at Valparaiso, Ind., and is now a druggist in Utah; and Theda M., born July 19, 1888, and Loring C., born August 8, 1891, both of whom are at home. The mother of this family passed away September 20, 1895. She was an earnest member of the Congregational Church, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is her husband.

Politically, Mr. Barr is a strong Republican and has exercised a potent influence in the local affairs of that party, serving as Supervisor of Esmen Township nearly fifteen years. He was the first Tax Collector of the township, and held the office of Township Trustee two terms. He has lived a long, honorable and useful life, and in his ripening years, is an object of profound respect and cordial good-will of all classes in the community.

BARTLETT, Albert C., (deceased), Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. It is not always the longest life, or the busiest life, that bears the greatest lesson to humanity. Some lives are pathetic, and correspondingly suggestive, because of their incompleteness and their unfulfilled promise. Patience under affliction and uncomplaining submission to the inevitable are as valuable, in their influence upon mankind, as great success in commerce and finance or as great triumph on the field of human strife. It should not be forgotten that much that is good and instructive may be crowded into a comparatively brief career, and that manifest possibilities are as pregnant of encouragement as well rounded plans fully achieved. These thoughts have been brought out by consideration of the essential facts in the life of the once popular and now affectionately remembered citizen of Fairbury whose name is above.

Albert C. Bartlett was a son of the late Dr. Cicero C. Bartlett and was born on a farm near Fairbury, January 15, 1857, soon after his parents removed from Indiana to Illinois. Doctor Bartlett, born in Ohio, December 4, 1820, read medi-

cine in Richland County, that State, and was graduated from the Columbus, Ohio, Medical college in 1852. In that year he married Chloe C. tober 13, 1858. Her mother, formerly Miss Emily Myer, was a native of Ohio. She died in August in 1888, and is buried in the cemetery at Fairbury. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett's failing health, they removed to Ogden, Utah, where it was hoped he would be benefited by a change of climate. For a time some promise of his improvement was apparent, but it was soon evident that he was gradually failing and, in spite of all that was done for him by physicians and friends, he died October 11, 1905, and his remains lie in the old family burying ground near the scenes of the sports of his boyhood. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Fairbury, and his brethren of that order performed over him the last rites of the mystic craft. Full of love and tenderness, he seemed during the long days of his affliction to think rather of the solicitude of those whom he must leave than of the fact that he must go. He is remembered as a useful citizen and a loving and indulgent husband and father. He left two children—Cicero and Louise Bartlett.

Beach, also a native of Ohio. After practicing his profession in Indiana, he came to Illinois in 1855; and, as will be seen by those who peruse the sketch of his life which appears in this volume, all his after career was influential upon the development and prosperity of Fairbury and the country round about. Of the children of Dr. Cicero C. and Chloe C. (Beach) Bartlett, Albert C. was the second born. The years of his boyhood were passed chiefly in schools at Fairbury and at Onarga, Ill. After finishing his education he was for a number of years cashier and book-keeper in the banking house of Bartlett, Beach & Downing of Fairbury. Resigning his position largely on account of the delicacy of his health, he lived for a time on his father's farm, having in charge the latter's quite extensive agricultural interests. Considerably improved in health, he eventually resumed his place in the bank.

Mr. Bartlett married Miss Emma McDowell, December 19, 1878. This accomplished lady, a daughter of Oliver P. McDowell, for many years a successful merchant and prominent citizen of Livingston County, was born at Avoca, Ill., Oc-

BARTLETT, Cicero C., M. D., (deceased), Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Fairbury was fortunate in having for one of its leading citizens, for many years, such a many-sided man as the late Doctor Bartlett. Not only was he a man of varied talents and accomplishments, but of most helpful spirit, who did as much as any one else to build up and beautify the town. Aside from regret for his inevitable taking off, those who were his fellow citizens can have no other occasion for regret concerning his career except the fact that his activities as a family physician ceased before he settled among them. But, from his activities as a business man, they are each and all thankful that they were in a position, as a community, to receive substantial benefit.

Doctor Bartlett was born in Hamilton County,

Ohio, December 4, 1820, attended the common schools near his home and, in due time, began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of his uncle, Dr. W. H. Bartlett, of Butler, Richland County, Ohio. Later he was a student at the Columbus, Ohio, Medical College, from which institution he was graduated with the degree of Medical Doctor with the class of 1852. April 13, 1852, he married Miss Chloe C. Beach, who was born in Madison County, Ohio, September 17, 1831, a daughter of Dr. Lorenzo and Edith (Bull) Beach. Dr. Lorenzo Beach was born in Vermont in 1789 and died in August, 1878, while his wife, Edith (Bull) Beach, was a native of New York, born in 1805, and died in 1874. They were parents of the following named children: James, Thomas A., Chloe and Hester. Doctor and Mrs. Bartlett began their married life modestly at Dillsboro, Dearborn County, Ind., where they lived until 1855, when they moved to Livingston County, Ill. There the Doctor opened up a farm on which they had a home until 1857, when he moved into Fairbury to engage in business as a general merchant, in connection with which he handled some heavy transactions in grain. About 1870 he established a private bank which afterward became well and favorably known as the bank of Bartlett, Beach and Downing. In time his health began to fail and he was obliged to retire from active life, passing his closing years at his home in Fairbury where he died in March, 1882.

Doctor and Mrs. Bartlett were the parents of the following named children: Edith, who is the wife of J. E. Lewis of Fairbury; Albert C., is represented by a sketch in this volume; Emma, married Hiatt B. Taylor of Bryan, Ohio, and they now reside in Fairbury, Ill.; William H., occupies the old Bartlett home. The dearest ambition of Dr. Bartlett's life was to provide a comfortable and handsome home for his family, and that ambition he was permitted to realize. The Bartlett residence, pleasantly located at Walnut and Fifth Streets, surrounded by shade and ornamental trees, is a monument to his taste and enterprise. As husband, father, physician, merchant, banker and citizen, he revealed in his whole career a character well worthy of emulation. Early in life he identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a consistent and generously helpful member as long as he lived. In his political affiliations he was a Republican. While he had no political ambition, he was several times elected to township offices which he filled with satisfactory ability and integrity.

BAUMAN, August F., a prosperous farmer and very favorably known citizen, whose comfortable home and finely conditioned land are located in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Woodford County, Ill., April 5, 1868, a son of Michael and Eva (Balbach) Bauman, natives of Germany. On emigrating to the United States, Michael Bauman, whose occupation was that of a farmer, first located in Woodford County, Ill., having bought 120 acres of land there. This he subsequently sold and moved to Livingston

County, where he purchased a 320-acre farm, on which both parents spent the rest of their lives. August F. Bauman was brought up on the home farm, and in boyhood attended the common schools of Woodford and Livingston Counties. Since reaching mature years he has been engaged in farming, and is now the owner of 320 acres of valuable land, accumulated largely through his own energy and thrifty management.

On March 12, 1891, Mr. Bauman was joined in matrimony with Emma E. Gentes, born in Livingston County, Ill., a daughter of George and Katharina (Freisinger) Gentes, both natives of Germany, but now deceased. From this union, eight children have resulted, namely: Elsie L., Albert C., Mary K., Clarence A., Emmet F., Archie F., Emma P. and Clark W.

Although not active in political affairs, Mr. Bauman gives his support to the Democratic party. In religious faith he and his family are Lutherans, and fraternally, he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Bauman has improved his beautiful home by rebuilding and with cement walks, as well as erecting one of the best barns in the county.

BEACH, Thomas A., retired farmer, merchant and banker, of Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. It is probable that no man in Livingston County has more reason to regard with satisfaction his years that are behind him, than the subject of this sketch. The years of Mr. Beach's life have been busy ones, full of usefulness and good will to men. They have brought him much success, not only from a worldly, but also from a moral point of view, because their triumphs have resulted from honest endeavor and square dealing. Few men have exerted a better influence upon the destiny of Fairbury or upon the individual interests of its citizens of all classes.

Thomas A. Beach was born in Amity, Madison County, Ohio, December 4, 1828, a son of Dr. Lorenzo and Edith (Bull) Beach, of Vermont and New York respectively. The American family of Beach is of English ancestry and its progenitors were among the colonial settlers. In all generations they have been patriotic, progressive and thrifty. In 1856, when Thomas A. Beach was about twenty-eight years old, his father and mother came to Illinois and settled on a farm near Fairbury. Later they moved into the village, where Lorenzo Beach died August 9, 1878, his wife having preceded him September 13, 1874. To them four children were born, named respectively: James, Chloe, Hester and Thomas A. Chloe became the wife of Dr. Cicero C. Bartlett, a biographical sketch of whom appears in this work, and she died some years since. Hester married Ezra Dominy, who died in Ohio. Their son, L. B. Dominy came to Fairbury, where he died after having won more than local distinction as a financier and man of affairs. His widow is living in Fairbury.

Thomas A. Beach gained his education in the public schools and in the old academic institution at Westervelt, Ohio. He married Miss Amelia Bartlett, April 8, 1852. Miss Bartlett was a sis-

ter of Dr. Cicero C. Bartlett, who was long connected with important interests in Livingston County. In 1854 Mr. Beach decided to go west. Notwithstanding his father warned him that he might not make a satisfactory success in the Illinois country, he adhered to his purpose. Land was cheaper in Illinois than in Ohio and the young man wanted more land. He came by way of Toledo, Ohio, to Pontiac, Ill., and thence over the prairies to Fairbury, arriving in August, 1854, and began farming two and a half miles south of the then small village. The site of Fairbury was then literally in the tall prairie grass. He bought 280 acres of land and a small house which he moved on his land. During the winter months it was not an uncommon occurrence for him to get up early in the morning and sweep out great ridges and patches of snow that the wind had driven in through cracks during the night. Buying three yoke of oxen, he began to break his land, and as soon as possible he got in his crop, consisting principally of spring wheat, of which he had a yield of from thirty-five to forty bushels an acre. His almost immediate success was so great that he was not at all reticent about it when writing to friends back in Ohio, who had thought it possible that he might score a failure. His first tax receipt in Illinois, dated in 1856, was for \$17.21 on his 280 acres of land and \$3.52 on his personal property. An interesting comparison between values then and now may be derived from the fact that, in 1908, his taxes amounted to more than two thousand dollars and his school tax to one thousand. In 1862 he left the farm and has since maintained a home in Fairbury, where he embarked in merchandising as a member of the firm of Pogue and Beach, proprietors of a general store. After about five years' success in that business, he engaged in the hardware trade for about fifteen years. Meanwhile, in 1873, as a member of the firm of Bartlett, Beach & Downing, he embarked in the banking business. After the death of Cicero C. Bartlett, the business was continued twenty years by Beach & Downing, who were succeeded by the Bank of Fairbury, which is operated by Powell and Bane. The old bank mentioned was long one of the strong financial institutions of Central Illinois.

In a business way Mr. Beach has perhaps been as successful as any man in the county. He yet owns 260 acres of the land that he bought in 1854, which, with subsequent purchases, makes an aggregate of about 3,000 acres. In politics he was originally a Whig and, upon the organization of the Republican party, he naturally allied himself with that organization, and has ever since exerted himself patriotically for the promotion of its policies. He has never been an office-seeker, and has never accepted office except with the conviction that, by so doing, he could advance the interests of his community. His solicitude for the advancement of the schools impelled him to accept a position on the Board of Education, in which he faithfully served fifteen years. He was for one year Chairman of his Town Board. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and he and his wife have, for many years, been help-

fully identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Diligent in all things, honest in all things and temperate in all things, he is in every sense of the word a public spirited citizen, strenuous and liberal in his support of all measures which, in his opinion, promise to benefit any considerable class in the community. His home is one of the finest and most pleasant in the town, and is widely noted for generous and genial hospitality.

On the 8th of April, 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Beach celebrated the fifty-sixth anniversary of their marriage. Mrs. Beach was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, July 9, 1828. She has borne her husband four children, who are here mentioned in the order of their birth: Sarah, born January 29, 1853, died aged fourteen; Chloe, born March 28, 1854, died when twenty-one years old; another child died in infancy; Ella, born February 8, 1862, was married May 16, 1883, to Dr. G. C. Lewis, a prominent practicing physician of Fairbury. The children of Dr. and Mrs. Lewis are: Thomas Beach, born November 12, 1884, graduated in law at the University of Illinois in 1908; Mamie Beach, born December 9, 1886, graduated at Washington College, Washington, D. C., in 1906; and Alma Eloise, born November 12, 1899.

BEAMAN, Benjamin.—The early life of Benjamin Beaman was spent on a farm near the quaint old town of Bath, Wiltshire, England, where he was born June 8, 1824, and where he attended the public schools, later on completing his education in a boarding academy in Marshalltown, the same shire. His parents were Benjamin and Jane (Lewis) Beaman, also born in England, and the father, after conducting a tannery in his native land for some years, came to New York about 1840, and on the present site of Central Park established a manufactory for white leather, succeeding thereat beyond his most ambitious expectations. In 1842 he sent to England for the rest of his family, and in 1856 sold his tannery and came to Amity Township, Livingston County, where he bought a few acres of land near Cornell, and lived in comparative retirement the balance of his life.

Under his father Benjamin Beaman acquired a thorough knowledge of the tanner's trade, and eventually conducted a tannery of his own in New York City. In September, 1852, he married in New York City, Margarette Reither, who was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany. This marriage resulted in four children, of whom three are living: Benjamin, born June 4, 1853, lives with his widowed mother on the home place; Mary, born January 17, 1855, lives in Streator, Ill.; Matilda, born July 17, 1861, is the widow of Henry Jones and lives in Mercer, Maine. Mrs. Beaman died June 8, 1862, and November 23, 1862, he married Sophia Schwachheim, a native of Hesse, Prussia, Germany, and born August 24, 1832, a daughter of Ernest and Magdalene (Beurman) Schwachheim. Mrs. Beaman came to New York June 15, 1855, and until her marriage worked in a hotel. In 1866 Mr. and Mrs. Bea-



EZRA GROSH AND FAMILY

man came to the present site of Cornell, which was then an unsettled prairie, and Mr. Beaman bought 80 acres of land in Section 14, and commenced to conduct general farming and stock-raising. To his original purchase he added until he owned 160 acres in Section 14, and a similar amount in Sections 10 and 15, and his operations were increased in proportion. At the time of his death, May 18, 1897, he was in prosperous circumstances, and the recipient of the honor and confidence of the community, which for so long had profited by his interest and co-operation. He was the friend of education and general advancement, and was generous in his support of charitable and social enterprises. By his second marriage Mr. Beaman had children as follows: Louis, born September 7, 1863, married Esther Ann Earp, of Pontiac, they reside in Amity Township and have three children—Charles W., Clarence L. and Mabel—living; Edward, born June 4, 1868, lives in Amity Township, married Sophia Gmelich of Amity Township, and they have had five children, three living—Elmer, William and Mildred; and Jane, born January 2, 1872, married August Schneider of Streator, Ill., and they have two children—Islay and Ernest.

BEAMAN, Louis R.—It was the privilege of Benjamin Beaman, father of Louis R., to establish his family in Livingston County the year following the Civil War, and thus to profit by the reconstruction period which meant so much to the future of this well favored part of Illinois. He was well fitted for the responsibilities which crowded around him, and though by no means one of the very large landholders or farmers, he labored with that faith in himself and others, with that conscientiousness in the performance of little things, which won for him a permanent place in the history of Amity Township. Benjamin Beaman was born in England in 1824, a son of John Benjamin and Jane (Lewis) Beaman, also natives of that country. He immigrated to the United States when seventeen years old, and there married Sophia Schwachheim, daughter of Henry Schwachheim. She had come from Germany several years earlier. For a time Mr. Beaman conducted an express business in New York City, and in the spring of 1866 came to Amity Township, where he bought eighty acres of land half a mile east of Cornell, the place having on it a small house and stable, and about twenty acres being cleared of timber and underbrush. He improved and modernized the place, added to it eighty-nine acres adjoining, and until his death, in May, 1897, was successful as a stock-raiser and farmer. His wife, who was born in 1832, still makes her home in Cornell, to which she removed after the death of her husband. She was his second wife, to whom he was married in November, 1862. Besides Louis R., who is her oldest child, she has a son, Edward W., living on the home farm in Amity Township, and a daughter, Jane M., wife of August Schneider, of Streator, Ill. Of Mr. Beaman's two marriages there were seven children, of whom the following are living: Benjamin P.; Mary Jane,

of Streator, Ill.; and Matilda, of Maine, wife of Henry Jones. The first Mrs. Beaman, in maidenhood Margaret Reither, to whom he was married in August, 1852, died in 1861.

The youth of Louis R. Beaman was uneventfully passed on his father's farm, and he took naturally to the occupation followed since time immemorial by his forefathers on both sides of the family. A common school education, supplemented by the research of later years, has proved sufficient for all his needs, and he is among the well informed and progressive men of his community. Neither his occupation nor field of activity were changed by his marriage, February 23, 1888, to Esther Ann Earp, who was born in Amity Township, May 23, 1868, a daughter of William and Amanda (Bacon) Earp, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. They were pioneer settlers of Amity Township, where they located at a very early date, Mrs. Beaman's grandparents being among the earliest settlers of the County. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Beaman were Charles and Esther (Morlage) Earp, natives of England, and her maternal grandparents were Socrates and Ann (Earp) Bacon. Mr. Beaman rented land from his father in Section 15, Amity Township, until the latter's death, when he came into possession of twenty-six and one-half acres, to which he added fifty-one adjoining acres purchased some time previous. At the present time he and his wife own 206 acres, forty acres of which are in Section 9. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and his stock includes as fine sheep, horses, cattle and hogs as are produced in this part of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Beaman are the parents of three children: Charles W., born January 22, 1890; Clarence L., born November 11, 1891; and Mabel L., born November 14, 1894.

In addition to his other interests Mr. Beaman is a heavy stockholder in the Cornell Telephone Company, in which he holds the office of director. In political matters he is a Republican, but is not prejudiced and votes for the candidate whom he considers best fitted to protect the interests of the people. Mrs. Beaman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where Mr. Beaman also attends divine worship.

BEARDSLEY, Oscar S., an intelligent, thorough and prosperous farmer of Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Cortland County, N. Y., April 30, 1848, and belongs to an old family of English origin, the name of which, with slight variations, can be traced back to a descendant of one of the generals or first chiefs of William the Conqueror—Lord Bardsea, of the Island of the Welsh bards. William Beardsley, the progenitor of the family in America, was born in England in 1605. Celestus Beardsley, the father of Oscar S., was a son of Belah Beardsley, the latter born in Connecticut in 1793, the son (Celestus) being a native of New York, born in Chenango County, while the birth of the mother of Oscar S., Amanda (Palmer) Beardsley, occurred in the State of Rhode Island. By occupation, Celestus Beardsley

was a farmer. At an early period he removed from Chenango to Cortland County, N. Y., where his marriage with Amanda Palmer took place. They came to Illinois in 1866, locating on a farm of forty acres in Section 27, Esmen Township, Livingston County. Here the father made all the requisite improvements, and on this farm, now increased to eighty acres in extent, he and his worthy wife still make their home. He is in his eighty-fourth year, and she is nearly eighty-two years old. In political opinions, the father was originally a Whig, and since the dissolution of that organization has always voted with the Republican party. For a considerable period he held the office of Justice of the Peace.

Oscar S. Beardsley was brought up on the home farm, and received his education mainly in the Chautauqua County (N. Y.) common schools, taking a short course of study in a New York academy. After his removal to Illinois he was engaged for twelve years in teaching school during the winter and farming during the summer seasons. In recent years he has taken charge of the farming interests of his father, besides operating 100 acres of his own. His farm lies across the road from his father's place and, besides general farming, since 1904, has devoted much attention to breeding Poland-China hogs. He also conducts a dairy business, keeping about twenty cows.

On November 1, 1875, Mr. Beardsley was united in matrimony with Alice Palmer, who was born in New York State. Previous to her marriage her father had been dead many years; her mother Angeline (Palmer) Palmer, passed away in 1903. Seven children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley, as follows: Louisa; Mabel, wife of Edward T. Bentley, has three children—Althea, Glenn and Leslie; Frank, of Oklahoma; Ralph; Della, who married Louis A. East, and has two children—Harold and Helen; Alfred; and Clarence. Louisa, Mabel, Della and Alfred received their education in the Pontiac High School.

In politics, Mr. Beardsley is a Republican and has held the office of Township Clerk.

BEGGS, David V., proprietor of livery, sale and feed barns, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. The son of a rich man who enters business life with other people's capital or the money left him by his father often congratulates himself, when he retires from active life, on the fact that he has held his own. How much more cause for congratulation has the self-made man who began poor, as he turns over in his mind the fact that he has not simply held, but has made his own. Livingston County contains many self-made men, but it is not probable that it has a citizen who has more fairly won, or more honestly deserves, the advancement he has achieved, than the prominent citizen of Fairbury whose name is the title of this all too brief personal notice.

David V. Beggs was born on a farm near Strawn, Fayette Township, Livingston County, August 15, 1867, and has the distinction of having been the second white child born in the county. His parents were Robert and Elizabeth (McMullen) Beggs, of French descent, born and reared

in Canada. Robert Beggs was the first of his family in Illinois, and Miss McMullen came to the State with her parents. They were married in La Salle County and not long afterward removed to Livingston County. Mr. Beggs rented a farm near Strawn where they lived until 1890, when they moved into the village of Strawn, whence, in 1892, they came to Fairbury, where Mr. Beggs died April 28, 1907. He was a quiet man who was usually to be found at home with his family, and he and his household were devoted and consistent Methodists. While he lived near Strawn, he ably and honorably filled various township offices. In politics his affiliations were Democratic. For many years a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, he practically exemplified the principles of that beneficent order in his daily life. His widow is living at Fairbury.

The immediate subject of this sketch was born and reared on his father's farm and received his early education in the district schools near his home. It should be added that he has always been a devoted student and, by systematic reading and observation, has quite thoroughly educated himself. While most boys would have been amusing themselves, he was making a practical study of agriculture, and loving horses he naturally gave close attention to stock-raising. At the early age of fifteen he was given charge of his father's farm, of which he was the manager until his father removed to Strawn. That was in 1890. Then the young man bought a livery and feed farm in the village mentioned, and managed it with signal success until 1892, when he sold it to remove to Fairbury, where he bought out the Beamer & Marsh Livery Stable, on East Main Street. Beginning business in Fairbury with six horses, he continued at the old stand until September 1, 1906, when he had twelve horses. He then bought the livery barn and stock of Mrs. Virgin, and at this time he has twenty-one livery horses and two hearse horses, fine carriages for funeral purposes, twenty-one single buggies, seven closed carriages, a pall-bearers' wagon, an expensive hearse and three spring wagons for hack service, besides four cutters and a bob-sled for use in the winter season. Among his stock are several good saddle horses, and he has a fine saddle. All in all, his stock and equipments are, for livery purposes, inferior to none in this part of the State. It should be added that he invariably sends careful drivers with his teams. His barn, one of the largest in Central Illinois, will accommodate 350 head of horses. He makes a specialty of buying and selling stock for market, acting as buyer for Harper Brothers of East Saint Louis, one of the largest concerns of its kind in this country. An idea of the extent of his operations will be afforded by the statement that, in 1907, he bought two hundred and forty-seven head of mules for the firm just mentioned. His business education has been acquired in the school of practical experience, and he is considered an expert judge of horses and mules. He buys wherever and whenever a good purchase is possible, always paying the highest market price. He has been



⌈ HENRY H. HARMS AND FAMILY

very successful in his chosen field, and, by tact and good management no less than by his friendliness and square dealing, he has come to be regarded as a leading stock-buyer in his vicinity.

Mr. Beggs married, at Pontiac, Ill., October 28, 1896, Miss Rose H. Huber, who was born near that city, a daughter of George Huber, a pioneer and prominent citizen of that section, who has been dead for some years. Mrs. Beggs is of German descent. She was educated at Pontiac and was for five years prominent as a teacher of schools in the country round that city. Her mother is still living at Pontiac. Mr. and Mrs. Beggs have a son, Robert Ronald Beggs, who was born at Fairbury, September 28, 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. Beggs are members of the Fairbury organization of the order of Yeomen, and Mr. Beggs is a charter member of the Strawn Lodge of Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a Republican, but he is not in politics for personal preferment. His interest in Fairbury is such that he is found ever ready to do anything in his power to promote its material prosperity or its attractiveness as a place of residence. Mrs. Beggs is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and he is liberal in its support and in that of other religious bodies. In all things he is broad-minded and patriotic, having in view the greatest good of the greatest number. His own experience in life has given him sympathy with every man who is struggling earnestly and bravely for worthy advancement.

BELLER, Andrew, a worthy and comfortably circumstanced farmer, of Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., now retired from his accustomed labors, was born at St. Dieu, France, on May 5, 1848. He is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Sheric) Beller, natives of France, where the father was born in 1800, and the mother in 1812. Both parents spent their entire lives in their native country, where Jacob Beller pursued the occupation of a farmer. Andrew Beller grew to manhood on his father's farm, and received his education in the public schools of France. In 1872 he came to the United States and, going to Chenoa, Ill., bought 80 acres of land in McLean County, near that village. Selling this five years later, he purchased the 160-acre farm in Pike Township, Livingston County, where he has since lived. He has increased his landed possessions until he now has 300 acres. Here he carried on general farming until the time of his withdrawal from active exertions. During all this time, his reputation has been that of a careful, diligent and thriving farmer, and an upright and useful citizen.

Mr. Beller was joined in matrimony on March 1, 1878, in McLean County, Ill., with Elizabeth Becker, a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Somers) Becker, natives of France. Both are deceased. Of this union there has been one son, John Beller, who is in active charge of his father's farm. In political matters, Mr. Beller gives his support to the Republican party. He and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church.

BENNETT, George H., a progressive business man and enterprising farmer on Section 17, Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County, who has brought his fine farm into a high state of cultivation and developed a beautiful home, was born on Section 36, Avoca Township, November 19, 1857, a son of John Bennett. The latter was born in Cape May County, N. J., February 5, 1821, where his parents James and Deborah (Goff) Bennett were also born. His paternal ancestors were native of Ireland, while his mother was descended from Welsh stock, represented by many descendants in New England. When John Bennett was a boy of fourteen, in 1835, with his father and step-mother, he started west and first located in Tippecanoe County, Ind. His mother had died when the son was only four years old, in 1825, his father dying in Indiana in 1847.

John was reared in Tippecanoe County, Ind., receiving a limited education in the primitive log-cabin school, and at the same time being engaged in farming. On October 6, 1846, he married Rachel Shaw, a native of New Jersey, born in 1824, and who was brought by her parents to Tippecanoe County, where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett remained in Indiana until 1853, when Mr. Bennett disposed of his interests and again started forth as a pioneer, locating in Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., and there rented land on Section 25 until 1856, when he bought 120 acres on Section 36 of that Township and from the wild prairie made a beautiful home. Thrown upon his own resources he certainly showed great courage and ability in overcoming all obstacles as he did. When he settled in the township he had about eighty dollars in money, a few rude farm implements and some live stock, but by energy, thrift and good management, he was enabled to add to his possessions until he had accumulated 320 acres of fine land in a high state of cultivation. On this farm the following family was born: Sarah S., born August 29, 1848, and resides at Fairbury; Miriam M., married Joshua Mills, who is now deceased; Winfield S., born November 15, 1851, died in Fairbury in 1906; John E., born March 5, 1855, resides in Fairbury; George H.; Rachel E., born March 17, 1862, widow of John P. Mitten, who was one of the prominent young business men of Fairbury and member of the Walton Bros. firm; Aaron James, born January 28, 1864, in the real estate, loan and insurance business at Mt. Carroll, Ill.; Mary D., born May 9, 1868, is a resident of Fairbury. John Bennett became one of the well-to-do men of this part of Livingston County, and spent his declining years retired from active life in Fairbury. His death occurred in 1901, while his wife died in 1890. Both were acquainted with the hardships of pioneer life, and yet he took time from his farming to interest himself in the welfare of the people of his community, serving as a member of the Board of Supervisors three years, was a School Director and School Trustee, and ever ready to bear his part in public affairs. They were both Quakers and a Quaker preacher officiated at the funeral of Mrs. Bennett, although they had joined the

United Brethren Church on account of there being no Society of Friends in the neighborhood. In the early days he was a Whig, and bitterly opposed to slavery in any form. Upon the organization of the Republican party, he strongly advocated its principles and supported them at the polls. He was a man to remember with affection and reverent respect.

George H. Bennett has lived in Livingston County for fifty-one years and, although he has traveled considerably, he has made this locality his permanent home. After attending district schools, he spent some time in college at Valparaiso, Ind., and later in the Wesleyan University in Illinois. Coming back home he taught for two years with remarkable success. In 1882 he accepted a position with the L. B. Dorniny Bank of Fairbury, as bookkeeper, when he resigned to become bookkeeper for the Walton Brothers Company, but, preferring farming, to which he had been reared, returned to the old home.

On October 17, 1883, Mr. Bennett was married to Miss Jennie F. Crum, a daughter of David S. Crum, whose biographical record appears on another page in this work. After their marriage, Mr. Bennett rented land until 1887 when in the fall of that year, Mr. Crum having made a trip to California, Mr. Bennett assumed charge of his extensive farming interests which he retained for three years. In 1890 he bought ninety-three acres on Section 17, Belle Prairie Township, adjoining the birthplace of his wife. This property was in very poor condition when Mr. Bennett purchased it, but he soon began improving it, placing it in fine condition until, today, it is one of the best pieces of farm property in the county. In 1901 he erected a beautiful home with all modern conveniences, furnace, hot and cold water, and no expense has been spared to make it a model of comfort and beauty. It is charmingly furnished, the piano is one of the best makes and the young people have other musical instruments. Books and magazines add to the homelike appearance of the house where the visitor is always made cordially welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have children as follows: Guy E., born August 7, 1884, died April 29, 1891; Mary Pearl, born September 4, 1886; Carl Crum, born September 19, 1888; Rachel Lois, born May 24, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have given their children excellent educations and fitted them for useful, happy lives. Like his father, Mr. Bennett has taken a deep interest in local matters and has served very creditably as School Director, and is now Clerk of the District, No. 304 Union District, Livingston and McLean Counties. He has also served as Assessor of the township, and in 1898 was elected Town Clerk, holding that position until 1905, when he was nominated and elected without opposition to membership on the County Board of Supervisors from Belle Prairie Township, and again in 1907, was returned to the same office. He has served upon a number of important committees of the Board, and since 1903 has been Secretary of the

Belle Prairie Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and a Director in the Cropsey Farmers' Elevator Company. As a member of the Republican party he has staunchly upheld its principles and supported its candidates. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Cropsey, Ill., and the M. W. A. of Fairbury. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are active workers in the Methodist Church, of which he is a trustee.

BERGAN, James, for a long period one of the most successful farmers in the vicinity of Chatsworth, Ill., an extensive landholder, and an honored veteran of the Civil War, now a resident of Chatsworth, Livingston County, was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, May 18, 1842, at the age of eight years was brought by his parents to the United States, landing at Staten Island, N. Y., and three years later accompanied the family to Peoria, Ill., where he worked as a farm hand until 1862. He then rented a farm, but in the midst of the first harvest, enlisted in the army, joining Company E., Seventy-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Thirteenth Army Corps. He served under Grant and Logan, took part in the Siege of Vicksburg, and at Johnston's evacuation of Jackson, Miss., hauled down the Confederate flag, one of the enemy meanwhile covering him with a gun. Following this act, Col. D. P. Greer promoted him "for gallant conduct," and this flag is still preserved as a trophy at Peoria. In July, 1864, he was captured at Fort Gaines, Ala., and was one of the eight prisoners first taken into Mobile. Some of the enemy's officers were in favor of shooting this squad, but the privates interceded in their behalf and their lives were spared. Women in the streets spat in their faces. Mr. Bergan was later taken to Andersonville Prison, where a filthy garb was substituted for his uniform. He was one of the 37,000 Union prisoners, who, during the war, were confined in that hateful enclosure of seventeen acres, where, within the limits of the historic stockade, the death rate was 137 per thousand. Famine stared them in the face, Capt. Wertz, the Commander, repeatedly cutting off the rations for two days at a time, this being done because of Capt. Wertz's dissatisfaction over the fact that two-thirds of the camp cast their vote for Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Bergan was confined ten months and three days at Andersonville, his weight during this period being reduced from 165 to 110 pounds. But three of the men captured with him came out alive.

In June, 1868, Mr. Bergan located in Livingston County, Ill., and on June 9, 1874, was married to Mary Boyle, a native of Ireland, and daughter of Patrick Boyle, who was born in County Louth, Ireland, in 1814, and died at the home of his daughter Mary, in Chatsworth, Ill., April 2, 1891. For many years he had been a farmer in the State of New Jersey. Eight children were the offspring of this union, as follows: William E., Thomas F., John H., Catherine L., Anastachia M., Mary E., James M. and Joseph J. Of these, William E., who was born September

14, 1876, and married Florence Jemson, is employed at the State Reform School in Pontiac. Thomas F., born in 1877, married Kate McGuire, and operates the old home farm. John H., aged twenty-nine years, married Lizzie Sullivan and is a stock buyer at Pipe City, Ill. Catherine L. married James Goggans, a farmer of Charlotte Township, where she now lives. Anna M. is the wife of Frank O'Brien, a farmer in Peoria County, Ill.; Mary E. married Charles Shaughnessy, a farmer near Pipe City. James M., aged twenty-two years, married Gertrude Shaughnessy, and follows farming three miles south of Chatsworth. Joseph J., aged sixteen, is a High School student, living at home.

Mr. Bergan owns two farms, the home farm containing 320 acres, and the Chatsworth Township farm, three miles southeast of the village, comprising 180 acres. For many years he was one of the largest stock-feeders in Livingston County, feeding as many as 300 head of cattle at one time. In 1903 he removed from the Chatsworth Township farm to the village of Chatsworth, leaving both farms to the management of his sons.

Politically, Mr. Bergan is a Republican. He has served seventeen years as School Director; twelve years as Road Commissioner, and as Township Supervisor until he took up his residence in Chatsworth. He was instrumental in enlarging the County Farm, and in rebuilding the County buildings. Fraternally, he is connected with the Knights of Columbus, and is a popular comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Bergan and his wife are members of S. S. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, of Chatsworth.

Mr. Bergan was a member of the committee appointed by the Board of Supervisors of Livingston County—Hon. Ira M. Lish, now State Senator from the Livingston District, then being Chairman of the Board—which had charge of the construction of the monument in honor of the soldiers of the Civil War from Livingston County, which was completed in 1903, being located in the northeast corner of the public square in Pontiac. The other members of the Committee were Hon. M. Cleary, of Odell Township; Ira M. Lish, of Saunemin; J. C. Deamer, of Union; D. M. Wilder, of Waldo; J. W. Hoover, of Pontiac; and A. H. Haag, of Cullom. Mr. Bergan represented Charlotte Township, and served as Chairman of the Committee. After visiting and examining monuments in different parts of the State, the contract for the erection of the monument was let to Messrs. Merkle Brothers, of Peoria, who were the lowest bidders, the cost being \$12,153.50, borne by the taxpayers of Livingston County. This monument will compare favorably with any other of its kind in the State, and is a tribute to the patriotism of the soldiers of the Civil War period, in which the citizens of Livingston County take a just pride.

BESGROVE, Frank C., for fifteen years identified with the best agricultural and stock interests of Livingston County and Central Illinois, and thoroughly conversant with every detail of his

business, is certainly an excellent exponent of the scientific farming class of today. Mr. Besgrove was born on the farm he now occupies on Section 1, Belle Prairie Township, November 18, 1873, a son of James Besgrove, an extended sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Frank C. Besgrove was reared to farm life, and received a liberal education in the district schools of Belle Prairie and Avoca Townships, and followed this by one year at the high school of Fairbury. When about fifteen years of age, his father bought 160 acres in Avoca Township, and in 1890 Frank C. Besgrove went to that farm remaining about four years, when he returned to Belle Prairie and took charge of the homestead, his sister keeping house for him for two years, until January 1, 1896, when he married Katie R. Ulfer, born in Avoca Township, a daughter of Rudolph Ulfer, a pioneer of Livingston County. The young couple settled on the homestead, which is one of the best farms in the county and is known as the Besgrove Stock Farm. Here Mr. Besgrove has extended his interests and entered extensively into horse breeding and raising. In 1897 he purchased Lenard, a registered French coach horse imported by a horse breeder of Wayne, Ill., and in 1899 purchased a Black Percheron stallion, one of the finest in the County. Mr. Besgrove has been one of the leading horsemen of this locality for many years and has made a specialty of his Percheron stock. In 1900 he purchased a registered Percheron mare, in 1903 became owner of a Black Percheron horse, Achilles, No. 33904, and in December, 1905, bought Romain, No. 29624, which took second place at the Chicago Stock Show of that year. He bought this horse just as the ribbon was being placed on him. His Black Percheron took first place in a show of twenty-five entries in 1903. In September, 1907, he bought from Ford & Harrington of Fairbury, two of their best imported Percheron mares, and has five of the best horses that could be purchased at the Fat Stock Show at Chicago. A full brother of his took first place at St. Louis, one of these has been entered at other stock shows, and has never been beaten in the ring. This horse was considered the best of the two that were shown as a team until he bought the horse for \$3,000. He also bought it as the ribbon was placed on it. The owner asked \$3,500, but Mr. Besgrove would not pay more. He had paid this amount before he had seen him in the ring, trusting to his own good judgment. His Percheron mares now weigh 4248 pounds and are considered among the best ever imported, having been brought by Mr. Ford in 1907. Mr. Besgrove has been very successful in his selection and breeding and has now Percheron and Belgian stallions, two French Percheron mares, and a two-year old Percheron that weighed 1,700 pounds the day he was two years old. He also has a one-year old Percheron that weighs 1,000 pounds. In addition he has nine Percheron mares registered stock and four coach mares. As can easily be seen he has bought only the best that could be found, displayed at the biggest horse shows, and regardless of price, and is expecting a fine ship-

ment consisting of two stallions and two coach mares, the best that importers could select. Mr. Besgrove's reputation as a horseman is second to none throughout Central Illinois, and he is recognized as an authority on horse flesh.

Mr. and Mrs. Besgrove are the parents of one daughter, Esther, born July 6, 1899, a very bright little girl. Mr. and Mrs. Besgrove are consistent members of the Christian Church, to which they contribute liberally. Mr. Besgrove never would accept of political honors, preferring to devote his time and attention to his work, and the results have proven his wisdom. His horses are without doubt the finest in this locality and their reputation extends all over the country, and his animals commanding the highest prices everywhere.

BESGROVE, James, (deceased).—The history of any community is the record of the lives of the men who have made it what it has become and who made possible the development eventually attained. If it had not been for the brave efforts of those men who reclaimed the great State of Illinois from timber and swamp, the Commonwealth would not today occupy the position it does among the other States of the Union. Among those who have thus nobly contributed themselves towards this great work, the late James Besgrove was a prominent figure, and when he passed away, May 13, 1907, on his beautiful farm in Avoca Township, Livingston County, the State lost one of its most valuable farmer-residents and his family a member it could ill afford to give up. For many years he was a resident of Belle Prairie Township, but was born in Somersetshire, England, December 13, 1844, a son of Charles and Eliza (Browning) Besgrove, both natives of England. The father died there in 1862, but the mother survived some years finally passing away in her native land. They were the parents of these children: William, Henry, Mary A., James of whom we are writing; Alfred and Charles. Henry located in Illinois, but the others all came to settle in Missouri.

When but sixteen years old, James left home and taking passage on a sailing vessel, after a five weeks voyage was landed at New York City, and from there went to Albany, but after he reached that city he could not obtain work and was penniless. Communicating with his brother Henry, who had preceded him and located in McLean County, Ill., he secured railroad fare and, once in McLean County, easily found work at \$200 a year. By practicing the most rigid economy, at the end of three years he had repaid his brother and saved enough to make a first payment upon eighty acres of government land in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County. This land was unbroken prairie, but, undaunted, the young fellow set to work to clear it and erect a house and barn. Gradually he added to it until he had a fine 160-acre farm of as good land as can be found in the township. There the family lived until 1889, when he bought a farm in Avoca Township, to which they moved, and there Mrs. Besgrove still lives. At the time of his death

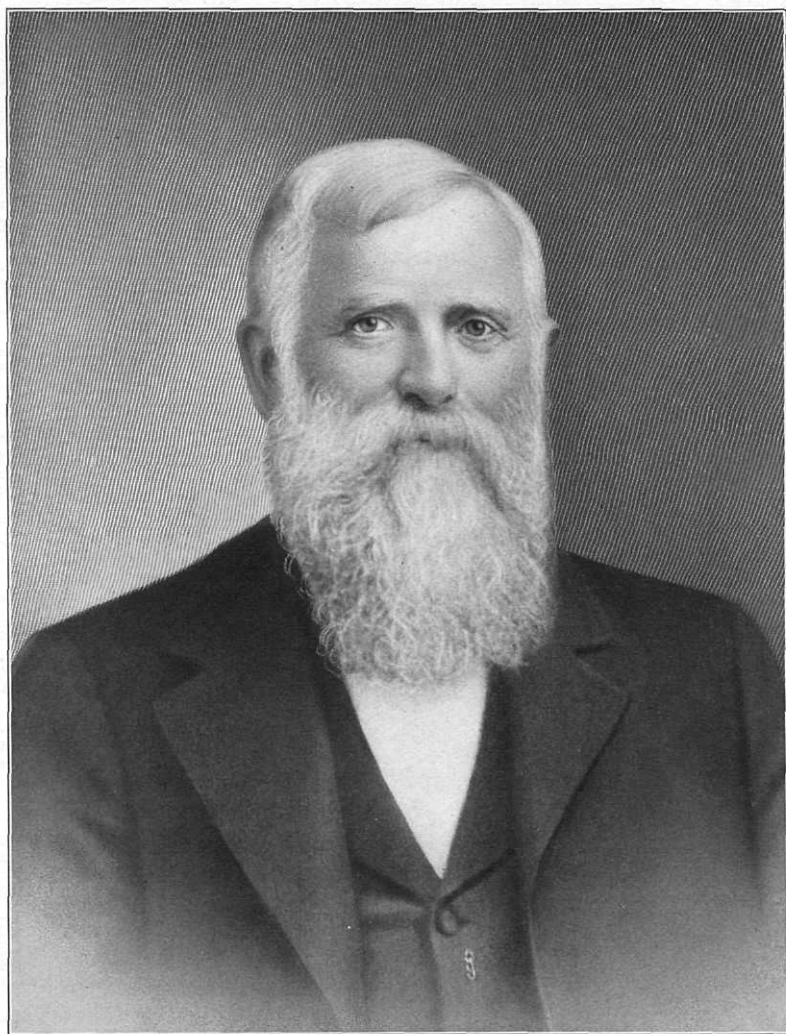
Mr. Besgrove had increased his holdings until he owned 540 acres of excellent farming land and was one of the wealthiest men in Livingston County, all having been secured through frugality, enterprise and hard work.

On January 1, 1872, Mr. Besgrove married Elizabeth Mastis, born in Somersetshire, England, September 4, 1853, and came to America with her parents and sisters, Mary, Susan and Sarah N. Mr. and Mrs. Besgrove were the parents of the following children: Frank C., born November 18, 1873; Herbert J., born October 4, 1875; Mary C., born October 9, 1881; Charles, born April 23, 1883; Annie, born January 26, 1885; Eliza, who died in infancy; Walter, born August 14, 1888, and Roy, born August 9, 1892. In every relation of life Mr. Besgrove proved himself an honorable, true-hearted gentleman, and was an excellent business man who knew how to make, save and invest money so that he leaves his family well provided for, not alone in money, but by a record for charitable and kindly deeds and upright dealings that will prove a precious heritage to those left behind.

BISHOPP, Harry B., D. D. S., Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Men and women of middle age who have been at all observant are aware that vast strides have been made in the dental profession during recent years. It is a far cry from the tooth-pulling "doctor" and the itinerant dentist of the middle of the last century, to the scientific Doctor of Dental Surgery of the present day. Improvement in implements, appliances and accessories has kept pace with the advance in knowledge and skill of the men who use them. In Central Illinois there are many well educated and well equipped dentists, but it is not probable that there is one who has more clearly demonstrated the possession of superior knowledge, ability and experienced skill than Dr. Harry B. Bishopp, of Fairbury.

Doctor Bishopp was born in Sheldon, Iroquois County, Ill., December 29, 1876, a son of Barton and Martha A. (Moore) Bishopp, the former a native of County Kent, England, the latter of Iroquois County, Ill. Barton Bishopp came to America with his parents when he was about sixteen years old. After tarrying a short time in the East, the family came west as far as Iroquois County, where Edward Barton Bishopp, father of Barton Bishopp, and grandfather of Harry B. Bishopp, took up the life of a farmer. There Barton Bishopp grew to manhood, and there he married and finally established himself in business as a miller and manufacturer of corn products at Sheldon.

The boyhood days of Doctor Bishopp were passed in his native town, where he received his primary education in the public schools, graduating with the class of 1893. From that time until 1896 he was employed in his father's mill. He then matriculated in the Northwestern University Dental School, Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899, with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. He practiced his profession at Wolcott, White County,



W. H. Hissmyms

Ind., until June, 1900. The time from June until the following August he spent at Sheldon assisting his father. In August, 1900, he came to Fairbury and opened a strictly modern dental office, complete in its every appointment. The quality of his professional services and the fairness of his methods, no less than his winning personality, have brought him the general confidence of the people of the town, and he has had no difficulty in working up to a good and dependable practice.

September 23, 1906, Doctor Bishopp married Miss Edith M. Barnes, a native of Fairbury and a daughter of Dr. S. M. Barnes, one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons in Central Illinois. Dr. and Mrs. Bishopp are active in all social matters in the town. The Doctor is an Ancient Free and Accepted Mason, a member of Tarboton Lodge No. 351, of Fairbury, Fairbury Chapter No. 99 R. A. M., and St. Paul Commandery No. 34 K. T., and Mrs. Bishopp is identified with the Order of the Eastern Star. The Doctor is also a popular member of the Fairbury Lodge Knights of Pythias. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an intelligent and active interest in all questions affecting the public weal.

Doctor Bishopp was the fourth in order of birth of a family of eight children. Edward Barton Bishopp (named for his grandfather) is dead. William Frank Bishopp is manager of a mill at Sheldon, Ill. Virgie M. Bishopp married L. O. Snow, a banker at Sheldon, Ill. Dr. J. A. Bishopp is a dentist at Forrest, Ill. Arthur A. Bishopp is a bookkeeper in the bank of Sheldon. Martha W. Bishopp is teacher in the public school, Sheldon; and Benjamin B. Bishopp is a bookkeeper for the mill.

BLACKMORE, Henry.—At the time of the settlement of the Blackmore family in Illinois in 1838, this region was as yet sparsely settled by white men, but Indians were still numerous and evinced, with few exceptions, a savage hatred toward the supplanting race. The little four-year-old boy, Henry, coming from his New York home to the wilderness, was filled with a dread of the blanket-clad savages, whose feats, after partaking of whisky in excess, were often enough to make the stoutest hearts quail. Yet among these Indians there was one who ever displayed a kindly spirit toward the whites, and this was Shabbona, chief of the Pottawatomes, who though less conspicuous than Tecumseh or Black-Hawk, in point of merit and intelligence surpassed both. This chief was born on the Kankakee River in 1775, and died June 17, 1859, being survived by his wife, Pokanoke, who was drowned in Mazon Creek in 1864. Through all of the Indian wars he never betrayed the white men. Twice he was visited by the great warrior, Black Hawk, in an endeavor to enlist him on the Indian side, but he refused to turn against those who ever had been kind to him. Many savages threatened to kill him and twice he had narrow escapes from death at their hands. His son, Pypeogee, and nephew, Pypps, were shot down like dogs by some of their own race.

Through the efforts of Shabbona the Black Hawk War was terminated much sooner than otherwise would have been possible. After the Government had taken from him his reservation of two sections of land, the city of Ottawa presented him with a tract above Seneca on the Illinois River and there he erected a house and maintained his family until death.

Shortly after John and Sarah Blackmore came from England to the United States and settled in Rochester, N. Y., their son, Henry, was born in the latter city January 6, 1834. During his infancy his parents moved to Indiana and, in 1838, became pioneers of Illinois, where they made their home in Ottawa for about five years, thence coming to Sunbury Township, Livingston County. Remaining at the home farm until twenty-one years of age, Henry Blackmore then started out for himself and for two years engaged in farming in Peoria County, but at the expiration of that time he returned to Sunbury Township. During the year 1874 he came to Pontiac and bought the 'bus line, which business he conducted with efficiency and success. While engaged in the prosecution of the duties connected with the business, he dropped dead in the Chicago and Alton Depot, July 27, 1902. His death was deeply mourned by a large circle of his warm personal friends.

Through all of his active life Mr. Blackmore was a staunch Republican in politics, and in religion he held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, while fraternally he was associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. At the opening of the Civil War he was eager to enlist in defense of the Union. August 17, 1861, his name was enrolled as a private in Company C, First Illinois Light Artillery, Houghteling's Battery, and with his regiment he went to the front, where he bore a brave part in many memorable conflicts with the enemy. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he was honorably discharged and, in September, 1864, returned to the old homestead in Sunbury Township. Among the battles in which he participated were those of Island No. 10, siege of Corinth, Stone River, siege of Atlanta, and battles of Jonesboro and Chickamauga.

Mr. Blackmore was united in marriage August 17, 1855, with Elizabeth King, who was born in Peoria County, Ill. They had no children of their own, but reared the two children of Mr. Blackmore's sister, these being Henry Oliver, of Pontiac, and Zela M. Oliver, who married H. H. Scatterday, also of Pontiac. Mrs. Blackmore, who survives her husband, is a daughter of William and Mary (Shane) King, the former a native of New Orleans, La., and the latter born in Wheeling, W. Va. Becoming pioneers of Illinois, they settled on wild land in Peoria County, where they remained until death.

BODLEY, John, (deceased). a most worthy pioneer farmer of Livingston County, Ill., and a man who, for more than half a century, enjoyed to an unusual degree the confidence and esteem

of the people of Avoca Township, where his useful and successful life was mainly passed, was born in the vicinity of Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, February 9, 1829. His parents, Thomas and Anna J. (Duncan) Bodley, were natives of Montgomery County, Ohio, and Kentucky, Ohio, respectively. On the paternal side, his ancestors were English, while the maternal ancestry represented some of the best blood of the Scotch-Irish race. Thomas Bodley served two terms on the Board of Supervisors, four years on the Highway Commission and fifteen years as member of the School Board. The paternal greatgrandfather came to America in time to help the colonists in their struggle against Great Britain, and Grandfather Duncan was a soldier in the War of 1812. Soon after the birth of the subject of this sketch his father and mother moved to Fountain County, Ind., locating there during the early settlement of that region. There Thomas Bodley took up a tract of government land and, applying himself diligently to the cultivation of the soil, succeeded in building up a comfortable home. In 1852 he came to Livingston County, Ill., locating in Avoca Township and lived there until his death February 27, 1906, the death of the mother taking place on March 23, of the same year. Their family consisted of eight children, two of whom died when quite young, six growing to maturity, but the subject of this sketch is the only one of the family now living.

John Bodley was reared in Fountain County, Ind., his early youth being hampered by limited opportunities for mental improvement. What education he was able to get was obtained in the subscription schools of those early times, mainly during the winter season. As soon as he was old enough to be of service he was made useful on the farm, and there became accustomed to the various details of an agricultural life. He began to lay his plans for the future when a young man, and on reaching his majority, was united in marriage with Mary A. Volva, June 5, 1850, at her mother's home in Utica, Ind. She was born in Fountain County, Ind., October 7, 1833, a daughter of William and Mary (Whitehall) Volva. By her he had seven children, of whom two—Della and Eddie—died at an early age. Those who reached years of maturity were Mary E., Thomas, John, William and Dora. Mary E., died in September, 1876; John died February 13, 1905, and Thomas fourteen days later. William is the only surviving member of the original group. A record of the latter's career may be found elsewhere in this connection.

John Bodley lived in Fountain County, Ind., until 1854, and in that year moved to Livingston County, Ill., locating in Avoca Township, where he had entered up 360 acres of Government land. On this not a furrow had been broken, and the entire tract contained no building. Securing a small tenement to shelter his family, he began to prepare the soil for cultivation, supervising the cutting of timber with the intention of putting up a frame dwelling. The first trees were felled in June, 1855, the lumber being dressed

in a saw-mill and kiln-dried, and in the following August the house was ready for occupancy, having been built in the substantial manner characteristic of all Mr. Bodley's undertakings. At that time it was considered the best farm dwelling in this part of the county. In a short time he erected good barns for his stock and the family were comfortably settled in their new home, fencing and further improvements being carried on. On this farm John Bodley and his wife spent the remainder of their days, the busy and useful life of the father terminating February 27, 1906, and the worthy mother following him to the grave on the 23d day of the following month, having shared together the pleasures and hardships of pioneer life for more than fifty years.

In all new settlements which have had a prosperous development, there have been a few leading spirits upon whom devolved the task of planting the standard of progress. John Bodley was one of these, never lagging behind and waiting for someone else to say, "come on," but always taking the lead in every movement calculated to promote the material, moral and intellectual interests of the community. As a reward of his long and strenuous endeavors he was graciously permitted by Divine Providence to see the locality on which he had trod as a sturdy and hopeful pioneer become one of the most productive and enlightened portions of the State.

Politically, Mr. Bodley was a life-long supporter of the Republican party, and was one of the first to hold the office of Supervisor, he being elected to that position twice. He served for four years as Highway Commissioner, and for fifteen years was a member of the School Board of Avoca Township. From an early age he was a zealous Methodist, and his religious sincerity and integrity were never questioned. He was one of the most earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Lodemia Station, whose place of worship was built in 1876, largely through contributions from his ample resources. He and his wife were connected with this church from the time of its organization, and in it he officiated as steward, being also superintendent of the Sunday school for many years. On many occasions, he represented the Onarga and Kankakee districts as a delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist church. He was an exemplary Christian and a model citizen, and it is the consensus of opinion among the fellow townsmen of their departed co-laborer that the sphere in which he moved was made far better by the reflected beneficence of his life.

BODLEY, William, one of the most favorably known of the pioneer residents of Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., where all of his mature life has been devoted to successful farming and the breeding of high-grade stock, was born February 19, 1858, in the same township. He is a son of John and Mary Ann (Voliva) Bodley, whose biographical record appears on another page in this volume. The boyhood days of William Bodley were passed in assisting his

M. Olga Hieronymus



father in the work of the farm and striving to obtain an education in the district schools. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years old. In 1879 he rented a portion of the homestead place, and on May 30, 1883, was united in marriage with Anna K. Smith, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Amanda (Silkott) Smith, who came from Ohio. Mrs. Bodley's mother died when her daughter Anna was about eleven years of age, and the latter afterwards lived with her uncle, John W. Smith, an early settler in Livingston County, and one of the leading men in his locality. Mr. and Mrs. Bodley began housekeeping in the old Bodley place, and in 1884, occupied the "Champlin farm," at the same time working his father's land. In 1885 he rented the Trohler farm in Avoca Township, and in the following year moved to his present farm, which has since been his place of residence. In the home farm which he has inherited are 100 acres, and he also owns 40 acres in Section 17, Avoca Township, which he bought in March 1906. For many years he has been one of the principal breeders of Poland-China hogs in the township, which, while not registered, are eligible for registration. He is also a leading horse-breeder, raising draft, French coach and roadster horses, and his stock has always brought the highest prices in the market. He is now dealing in a mixed-breed horse of fine style. His farming and stock-raising operations have been attended with successful results, and he is regarded as one of the most enterprising and progressive men in this line in his section of the county.

Mr. Bodley well remembers the time when the locality where he lives was a wild prairie, the slough grass being high, and the land now so highly cultivated being all under water. On the tract which his father bought was a pond, and into this he drove with a team to put down stakes for a fence. All this area, once the feeding place of wild geese and ducks, has been drained by sub-tilling, and is now covered by farmers' homes. Mr. Bodley has done his full share in reclaiming this region from its primitive condition and in making it productive and valuable. Of his father's family of eight children he is the sole survivor left to tell the story of the privations and hardships of their pioneer days in Livingston County.

Mr. and Mrs. Bodley became the parents of five children, namely: Fred S., born March 8, 1884; Mary, born July 18, 1889; Horace W., born December 31, 1892; Robert G., born January 17, 1899, and Margaret, who was born August 26, 1902. Fred S. Bodley married Alta Bills, and is a farmer in Eppards Point Township, Livingston County. Mary is the wife of John B. Love, and has one child. Her husband is a resident of Kankakee, Ill., where he is in charge of a large horse-barn. Horace W. is attending school. The mother of this family is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In politics, Mr. Bodley is a Republican, and is now serving his third term as School Trustee.

BOURLAND, Ogden P.—Few names are more

intimately associated with the present financial and commercial interests of Pontiac, Ill., than that of Ogden P. Bourland, whose personal history may almost be said to be the history of the National Bank of Pontiac. On the organization of that institution in May, 1874, under the presidency of J. E. Morrow, he entered the employ of the concern and since then has been a leading factor in the development of its business, the enlargement of its interests and the extension of its loans and mortgages. Successively he has occupied the offices of Cashier, Vice-President and President, directing the policy of the institution and superintending its investments with conservatism.

Born in Peoria, Ill., November 15, 1850, Mr. Bourland is a son of Benjamin L. T. and Julia (Preston) Bourland, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and St. Charles, Ill. The grandfather, Thomas Bourland, was a native of Kentucky and there married a Miss Reece; his father, Thomas Bourland, removed from North Carolina to Kentucky at a very early day. The maternal great-grandfather, Isaac Preston, commanded a regiment during the Revolutionary war. As early as 1836 Benjamin L. T. Bourland accompanied his parents to Illinois and settled at Vandalia, where his father worked in the state house and, in 1843, he held a clerkship in the Auditor's office, at Springfield. Through the influence of Stephen A. Douglas, who took a fatherly interest in him, he secured a position in the office of William B. Ogden of Chicago, the first mayor of that city, and a man of commanding mental resources and wide business influence. Being given charge of the land department in the offices of Ogden, Jones & Co., Mr. Bourland removed to Peoria in 1846, and carried on an extensive business in locating land warrants in what was known as the Military Tract of Illinois; eventually purchasing the company's Peoria agency. Though now eighty-three years of age, he still conducts an extensive land and loan business. He has been a widower since the death of his wife in 1867.

After having completed the courses of studies of the Peoria public schools, Ogden P. Bourland became a student in the State Collegiate Institute at New Haven, Conn., and later attended in Peoria County the Episcopal College of Illinois, founded by Bishop Chase of the Episcopal Church. At the age of eighteen years he entered the employ of the grain commission house of Spruance & Preston, of Chicago, but the following year he returned to Peoria, and later for two years he traveled in Illinois, loaning money on land, in the interests of the Aetna Life Insurance Company. On resigning that position he came to Pontiac as an employee of Joseph F. Culver & Co., in the real-estate and loan business, but in 1873 severed his connection with that firm and the next year became identified with the bank to which he has since given his most conscientious efforts. Politically he gives his allegiance to the Republican party. For two terms he served as an Alderman, representing the Third Ward of Pontiac. In fraternal relations he is a member of

the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America.

The marriage of Mr. Bourland took place in November, 1883, when he was united with Miss Mary P. Coddling, who was born in Lockport, Ill., and by whom he has four children: Julia, Rudolph, Theodore and Langford. The parents of Mrs. Bourland were Rev. Ichabod and Maria (Preston) Coddling, natives of New York, the former a man of marked ability and oratorical powers. Many offices of political prominence were tendered him, but these he declined in order that he might pursue his chosen labors as a clergyman in the Congregational church. Prior to the Civil War he was a co-laborer with the famous Owen Lovejoy in political campaigns, both residing in Princeton, Ill., at that time.

BOYER, George W., a greatly respected citizen of Dwight, Ill., where he is passing his declining years in comfortable retirement, is the owner of a highly improved and productive farm in the vicinity of the town, on which a considerable portion of his active life was spent in successfully tilling the soil. In the period of his full vigor he was one of the most industrious, diligent and thorough among the farmers of Dwight Township, and is richly entitled to the restful ease which now rewards a career of long continued toil. Mr. Boyer was born in Lancaster County, Pa., February 20, 1827. His father and mother, George and Lydia (Ropp) Boyer, were also natives of that State, the birth of Lydia Ropp having occurred in what is now the city of Reading. When a young man, George Boyer followed the occupation of hauling merchandise to various points on the Pennsylvania turnpikes, some of his trips covering many miles in extent. Subsequently he devoted his attention to farming, in which he was engaged during the remainder of his life. In politics, he was a supporter of the Whig party. Both parents died in their native State. The religious faith of both was that of the Lutheran church. Their family consisted of five sons and one daughter, and of this number but one is now living. The father died in 1866. George W. Boyer was reared on the home farm, and received his education in the common schools of Lancaster County. In early manhood, he was employed for some time in burning charcoal in the woods near his father's place, but later applied himself wholly to farm work. In 1867 he came to Illinois to see the country, and while visiting in Livingston County, yielding to the persuasions of one of his cousins who had preceded him to this locality, bought a farm of 80 acres. By dint of hard work he gradually accumulated the means wherewith to pay for the land, and, in 1878, was enabled to buy 80 acres more, adjoining his first purchase. On the place, situated a few miles south of Dwight, Mr. Boyer carried on general farming and stock-raising until 1894, when he abandoned work and moved to Dwight, buying a residence on West Chippewa Street, which he has since occupied.

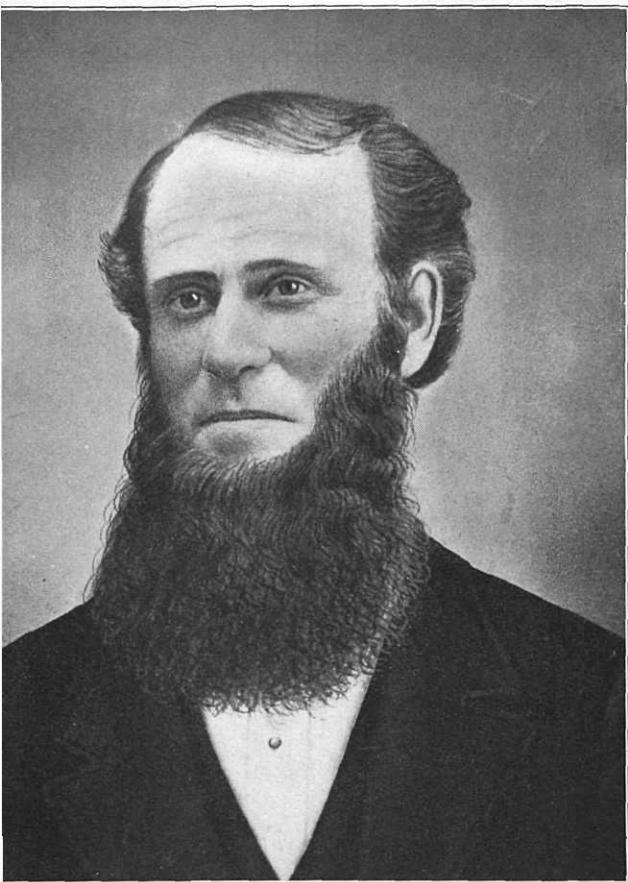
The marriage of Mr. Boyer took place in 1849, Mary Ann Turnbaugh becoming his wife at that

time. Mrs. Boyer was a daughter of Henry and Katharine Turnbaugh, early settlers of Pennsylvania, where they spent the whole of their lives. Seven children were the offspring of this union, as follows: Henry F., who lives on the old homestead in Dwight Township; Annetta, whose home is in Nebraska; Samuel Harvey, a resident of Dwight; Sarah Katharine, of Kansas; Climena Ellen, residing in Dwight; George W., deceased; and Alfred A., who is connected with the Dwight Telephone system. Mrs. Boyer, a woman of high character and a devoted wife and mother, passed away January 17, 1899. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as is also her husband.

Politically, Mr. Boyer has been long an adherent of the Republican party, and has rendered efficient and faithful service to his township as Road Commissioner and School Director. He has lived a busy, upright and useful life, and in his waning years is the object of unfeigned respect and hearty good wishes on the part of all who know him.

BOYER, Henry Foster, a farmer of the best repute, who is engaged in cultivating 160 acres of very desirable and finely improved land in Dwight Township, Livingston County, Ill., a few miles south of the town of Dwight, was born in Blair County, Pa., January 16, 1854, a son of George W. and Mary Ann (Turnbaugh) Boyer, natives of Pennsylvania, his father born in Lancaster County, February 20, 1827. The paternal grandparents, George and Lydia (Ropp) Boyer, were also Pennsylvanians by nativity, the city of Reading being Grandmother Boyers' birthplace. Henry and Catharine Turnbaugh, the grandparents on the maternal side, settled in Pennsylvania at a very early period, and there spent their lives. George W. Boyer, father of Henry F., came to Illinois with his family in 1867, locating in Livingston County, and after farming many years, moved to Dwight, where he is now living in retirement, his wife having died January 17, 1899. A detailed narrative of his life, together with further particulars in relation to the Boyer family, is given separately in this connection. Henry F. Boyer received his education in the common schools of Livingston County, and remained at home until he was twenty-five years old, when he went to Dwight, and there worked for some time at the carpenter's trade. Subsequently, he was engaged in breeding draft horses, continuing in this occupation until his father's advancing years recalled him to the home farm, the latter removing to Dwight and relinquishing active pursuits. Since assuming the management of the homestead, Mr. Boyer's farming operations have been followed by profitable results, and he is accounted one of the most successful farmers in his township.

On December 23, 1885, Mr. Boyer was joined in matrimony with Nellie Morris, who was born in Dwight Township, a daughter of William and Cathron (Devine) Morris, natives of England, and very early settlers in this locality. The father of Mrs. Boyer, who was the owner of a



BENJAMIN HIERONYMUS



ALVIRA M. HIERONYMUS

very fine farm of 200 acres, died when she was but twelve years old; but her mother is still living at the age of eighty-two years. William Morris was a man of high character and a citizen of earnest public spirit. Politically, he was a staunch Republican. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Boyer has been blessed with three children, all of whom are at home and making themselves useful in the work of the farm. Their names are: Howard M., Mary Cathron and George Morris.

In politics Mr. Boyer is a firm supporter of the Republican party, and has rendered efficient service as School Director and Road Commissioner.

BRADBURY, Benjamin Franklin, one of the oldest residents of Eppards Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., a thorough and successful farmer, a man of a high order of intelligence and of broad and varied information, and regarded by all as a leading and eminently useful character in his locality, has lived in Livingston County for forty years, having been brought to the county by his parents when he was a lad of twelve years. He was born in Peoria County, Ill., on July 7, 1857. His father, Joseph Sanders Bradbury, who was half-owner of a large saw-mill in West Virginia, moved from that State to Peoria County in 1850. His mill in Virginia had an extensive run in the lumber regions of that State, furnishing ties and bridge timbers for new railroads, lumber material for steamboats and the necessary mill material for various other commercial uses. The cloud of secession was then already lowering over that region, the religious element was divided into North and South Churches, and men often carried fire-arms with them to their places of worship. The parents of Mr. Bradbury entertained anti-slavery sentiments, which, even at that early period, subjected his property to hazards, and made the conditions surrounding his wife and children not altogether free from danger. While the Southerner seemed cordial towards those Northern people who were furthering the enterprises they desired to develop, they were nevertheless plainly getting ready for a conflict which they deemed inevitable, which would establish a Confederacy based on slavery, under the domination of King Cotton. Slavery, however, was too revolting an institution for the elder Bradbury to uphold, and war in its behalf was a dreadful alternative to be awaited, and for this reason he sold his interests to his partner, who was a college professor, a typical son of the old Dominion, a genial gentleman and considerate towards his slaves. With a substantial profit resulting from the disposition of his share in the saw-mill, the father with his wife and family moved to Illinois, settling in Peoria County.

The birthplace of Benjamin F. Bradbury was a snug little cottage containing six rooms, being one of the most comfortably arranged of the pioneer dwellings in that locality. He was next to the youngest of six living children who reached years of maturity. The father, who was the

first of the family to die, was born in Amherst, N. H., July 22, 1811, and grew to manhood in that State, going thence to New York City, and learning the trade of a printer in the office where Horace Greeley was taking the same course. In later years, together with an elder brother, William L. Bradbury, he was engaged in publishing the New York Sun. This brother died of smallpox, at that time a wide-spread epidemic, sweeping off residents of the city by hundreds. Being thus left without a partner in the newspaper enterprise, the father continued to publish the Sun alone for several years. It was a profitable enterprise, having a very fine job-work patronage from first-class business men. Some unique specimens of advertisements then printed in that office are still in the possession of his descendants. These are very large leaf, or sheet cards of unusually heavy printing paper, with a most exquisite, mahoganized, marbled or sea-blue color. On these are printed, in artistic type and manner, and in gold, silver or bright bronze, the announcements of hotels, marine lines, commercial houses, etc. Few people of the present time have ever beheld more superb typographical work or beautiful paper. At that time it was a very expensive but common and effective method among those of large means, of exploiting business enterprises in large cities. Having been seized with an optical ailment, Joseph S. Bradbury was finally compelled to dispose of his business interests in New York, and, under the advice of his physician, to seek an outdoor life in a milder climate, he accordingly moved to Wheeling, W. Va., and as previously indicated, engaged in the manufacture of lumber material. His health being much improved by this change, he was induced to abandon his Virginia occupation, and in order to continue in his out-of-door pursuits, to adopt agricultural pursuits in a pioneer settlement on the prairies of Illinois. In this region, Peoria was then the only home market for grains and cereals. The farmers in those days shelled corn by hand-shellers, and trampled their grain out with horses, or in some cases flailed it out, as was most convenient. The scythe was then in vogue, and the odd-looking cradle was the "harvesting machine." The sturdy farmers of early times were thus inured to exertion which would prove fatal to many of the modern younger agriculturists. Farm labor at the present day is in many parts a song accompaniment to life, and homes and beautiful fields now gladden the landscape which was once the scene of the toils and struggles of the hardy pioneers.

The maiden name of Benjamin F. Bradbury's mother was Mary Mercena Lunt, and she was born in Newburyport, Mass., August 17, 1813, and there received her education in the public schools and academy, subsequently teaching school in that town for many years. She was a cousin of his father, who also had acquired an academic education in his native place, and they were sweethearts throughout their wedded life, giving to their children an ideal home, which is held in hallowed memory. The remains of

both parents lie in the quaint little cemetery near the old homestead, where repose the ashes of many of the early settlers of that locality.

The grandfather on the paternal side was William Bradbury, son of Daniel Bradbury, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was killed in the Battle of White Plains. William Bradbury was a wheelwright and carriage-maker by trade, and was also a talented musician, and an instructor in music. The ancestral line of the family was of French-English origin. The maternal grandfather was Richard Lunt, a sailor boy for twenty years, and a sea captain for fifty years later. He was the owner of a merchant vessel which plied between the eastern and southern shores of the United States and the West India Islands, including also the coast of South America bordering on the Caribbean Sea. Twice during his career as a navigator, he witnessed the slaughter of human life resulting from insurrections in those regions, the Spaniards driving their helpless victims down to the sea-shore, and after literally cutting them into pieces, casting the mangled bodies of the slain into the waves. In his younger days, this venerable seaman had some experience in the War of 1812, being twice captured by the British Marines, and his cargoes being confiscated in each instance. It so happened, however, that in both cases his vessel was retaken by United States cruisers. In the long period of his sea service he was never shipwrecked. A photograph of the veteran sailor at the age of ninety-nine years represents him as unbent in form, with classic features and eyes as bright as those of a child. He died in his one hundredth year from the effects of a fall upon a sleet-covered sidewalk, and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Newburyport, the city out of which he had sailed for so many years.

Cutting Lunt, uncle of Richard Lunt, was one of the heroic mariners belonging to the crews of John Paul Jones, the illustrious naval commander who, with his three comparatively small vessels, scoured the British waters, destroying the enemy's merchantmen and much shore property. In one of the coast raids quite a number of Commodore Jones' sailors were captured and held as prisoners of war, undergoing severe privations, and among these heroes was Cutting Lunt. Many of the unfortunate prisoners succumbed under the burden of their hardship, dying in captivity, and Cutting Lunt yielded up his life a few days before he was to have been released, the war having been brought to a close.

Benjamin F. Bradbury received an excellent school education in his youth, obtained under the ablest of instructors, and subsequently attended the high school, matriculating also in Eureka College, but not taking the full course. Several of his preceptors were ministers of the Gospel, and their names and characters linger in his memory as suggestions of wholesome and beneficent lives. He has taught school and holds both the second and first grade teacher's certificates, but having the opportunity to engage more profitably in farming, has applied his energies in that

direction. Throughout his agricultural experience he has never, however, ceased to maintain a process of educating himself, and has spent much time in studying the languages and many of the higher and more technical branches of science. During the last six years, in his intervals of leisure, he has made a most searching study of astronomy, geography and meteorology, for the purpose of preparing an astro-geographical chart on which long range forecasts of weather could be based with reasonable certainty. This chart is intended to reorganize the old principles and methods of weather science, adding materially in the way of new and provable knowledge in meteorology.

The subject of this sketch is a bachelor. He owns the old homestead of his boyhood, fraught with memories of early days; for the old familiar district school, Lakeside District 87, is in plain sight. There stand the stately trees which his childhood hands planted, and where the birds have sung their songs among the leaves and branches throughout the summers of many lapsing years. His life's dream of happiness has been beautifully realized. With a farm well kept and under thorough cultivation through his own industry; with a cozy home well supplied with good books, papers and magazines, and walls hung with pleasing pictures; with flowers on the lawn to greet the advent of the season of bloom, and all material things to afford charm and cheer, Mr. Bradbury dwells in contentment, one of the most favorably known citizens of Livingston County.

Politically, although of Democratic paternity, Mr. Bradbury has been wont to vote the Republican ticket for Presidential candidates and on national issues. Especially, he supports those commending themselves to his judgment as best qualified for the various offices. He has served as School Director in the old home district of his childhood for twenty-one consecutive years, having acted in the capacity of clerk of the board since his first election. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the M. W. A. and the I. O. O. F. In matters pertaining to religious faith, his inclination is towards the Quaker belief of his ancestors, but he has occupied a liberal position towards all Christian denominations, and is in all respects a public-spirited member of the community.

BRADFORD, Ralph F., the present Postmaster of Pontiac, is one of the community's capable and progressive business men, and by occupation is a trained and widely experienced pharmacist, his store on the corner of Mill and Madison streets expressing the most advanced methods of conducting such an enterprise. Since his graduation from the Chicago College of Pharmacy in 1886, Mr. Bradford has let no stone unturned to add to his professional information and usefulness, and he rejoices in the reputation of being one of the most practical and dependable men in his line in Livingston County. In December, 1881, he entered the employ of Caldwell



THOMAS LYTLE



MARY J. LYTLE

& McGregor, establishing his present and highly profitable business in 1895.

Mr. Bradford was born in Monmouth, Ill., March 24, 1865, a son of Rev. David G. Bradford, and Sarah (McClaghry) Bradford. His home environment offered every incentive to honesty and industry, but his educational and general advantages were largely of his own making. He is a graduate of the Princeton Township High School, and by nature and inheritance is of a studious and inquiring mind. Early in life he became interested in Republican politics, and for years has been active in local affairs, his first appointment as Postmaster of Pontiac having occurred November 15, 1897. He was re-appointed in 1901 and 1906, and his management of the affairs of Uncle Sam has met with gratifying appreciation, regardless of party affiliations. He has attended many State Conventions, and was a member of the Republican State Central committee in 1896 and 1900.

The marriage of Mr. Bradford and Hattie Schneider occurred in Pontiac October 11, 1887, and of their union there are four children: Harriet D., Bonita, Mary L., and Ralph F. Mr. Bradford is a prominent social factor in the community, and is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Modern Woodmen of America, and the Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar. He is a genial and approachable gentleman, valuing courtesy, consideration and honesty in dealing with human kind, and founding his business and general standing upon worth while and imperishable qualities of heart and mind.

BRADY, Edward, who has steadily risen from the level of a poor and obscure man to that of a wealthy farmer, prominent in the locality of his residence in Livingston County, Ill., was born in Ireland, May 10, 1851. He is a son of Patrick and Ann (McMahon) Brady, natives of Ireland, where both parents spent the whole of their lives. Edward Brady, who was one of a family of thirteen children, emigrated to the United States in 1875, landing in New York City with \$2.50 in his pocket, locating at Wenona, Marshall County, Ill., where he remained seven years. At the end of this period he moved to Livingston County, where he has since been successfully engaged in farming. Beginning without means and in a strange country, he advanced by slow degrees, through industry, perseverance and economy, to the possession of a handsome competency and to a condition of prominence and influence among his fellow townsmen. Besides his home farm, which is one of the best properties in this part of the country, he is the owner of a large tract of improved farming land in Nebraska, and is recognized as a very prosperous and substantial farmer.

In May, 1874, Mr. Brady was united in marriage with Margaret Day, who was born and reared in Camp Grove, Stark County, Ill., and their union resulted in eight children. Of these three sons and two daughters are still living, one son and one daughter being married. Politically, Mr. Brady is a Democrat and has held the office

of School Trustee for twelve years. In religious faith, the family are devout Catholics.

BRINKMANN, Simon, a worthy and prosperous farmer, living in Rook's Creek Township, Livingston County, Ill., who, through rugged energy and steadfast perseverance has accumulated large landed possessions, was born in Germany, October 24, 1839, a son of Charles L. and Sophia (Drechmaister) Brinkmann, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1859, settling in Havana, Ill. The father was a farmer by occupation, died in 1863, and the mother in 1860. The former was a Democrat and a member of the Lutheran church. Simon Brinkmann received his education in the public schools of Germany, and accompanied his parents when they came to Illinois, where he followed farming on rented land until 1869. In that year he bought 160 acres of land in Rooks Creek Township, to which by successive purchases he has added, until he now owns 400 acres.

Mr. Brinkmann was joined in the bonds of matrimony, November 18, 1862, to Mary A. Uthmiller, born in Prussia, Germany, February 3, 1843, a daughter of Herman and Henrietta (Bulk) Uthmiller, natives of that country, who emigrated to the United States in 1850. Both parents are deceased, the father dying in 1896, the mother in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Brinkmann have twelve children, of whom two died in infancy. Those still living are as follows: Sophia, born January 16, 1864; Louis, born December 21, 1865, married Margarette Crabb, they have three daughters and one son; Frederick, born April 13, 1867, is unmarried and lives in South Dakota; Henry, born September 21, 1871, married Frances Stridt, they reside in McLean County, Ill., and have one daughter; William, born May 22, 1874, married Belle Young, they reside in Rooks Creek Township, and have one daughter; Matilda, born March 24, 1878; Simon, born May 5, 1889, resides on the home farm, and is unmarried; Mamie, born January 30, 1883; Anna, born December 5, 1886, and Lydia, born May 5, 1889. Anna is one of the teachers of Livingston County, and is very popular. Politically Mr. Brinkmann is identified with the Democratic party. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

BROOKSHIER, Martin L., M.D., a rising young physician of Pontiac, Ill., whose efficiency in practice and faithful attention to the duties of his profession have already won for him an enviable reputation, was born in the town of Ruckerville, Clary County, Ky., January 12, 1878. He is a son of Achilles and Susan (Moreland) Brookshier, natives of that State. Martin Brookshier, the paternal grandfather, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and his wife, Amanda (Cummings) Brookshier, was of Irish extraction. They were pioneer settlers of Clark County, Ky., where their closing years were spent. They were the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom reached years of maturity. Of this family, seven sons and one daughter are still living. On the maternal side, the grandparents, George

and Sallie M. (Roberson) Moreland, were born in Pennsylvania, and settled in Clark County, Ky., at an early period. Grandfather Moreland is deceased, but at the present writing his widow is still living, and on February 19, 1907, was one hundred years of age, having lived on the same farm more than sixty years.

Achilles Brookshier, the father, was educated at Winchester, Clark County, Ky., and taught school in that vicinity. He studied law and subsequently applied himself to farming. In 1896 he moved to Gainesville, Tex., where he was killed in June of that year in a runaway accident. In politics he was a Democrat. He was a member of the Baptist church, his widow, who still survives him, residing at Normal, McLean County, Ill., being a communicant of the Christian church. Five sons and two daughters were the offspring of their union, all of whom are living.

Martin L. Brookshier was reared on a farm, and attended the public and high schools of his native county. When not quite seventeen years old he left Kentucky, going to Decatur, Ill., where he arrived in October, 1894. He was a pupil in Green Academy at Taylorville, Ill., and afterwards in Marion Academy, Marion, Ind., working his way through these schools. He then went to Willis Springs, Mo., where he took a preparatory course in medicine and, in the spring of 1897, located in Pontiac, Ill., and there worked two and a half years in the shoe factory. In 1899, he entered the Barnes Medical School, of St. Louis, from which he was graduated in May, 1903, beginning the practice of medicine at Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., the same year. After remaining there nineteen months, he changed his location to Pontiac, where he has since acquired a large practice. Dr. Brookshier is a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the Livingston County Medical Society. The residence occupied by him, and in which he maintains his office, is his own property.

On September 7, 1904, Dr. Brookshier was united in marriage with Josephine Beier, of Bloomington, a daughter H. J. and Rickie (Cruse) Beier, natives of Germany. One son has resulted from this union, Middle J., born June 14, 1905.

In politics, Dr. Brookshier is a Republican. Fraternally he is affiliated with the K. of P.; the I. O. O. F., Pontiac Lodge No. 262; the American Home Circle, the Yeomen, and Fraternal Tribune, and is Examiner for a number of Insurance Companies.

BROWN, Albert, who has been identified with the farming interests of Avoca Township, Livingston County, for a number of years, and has done more than his share in advancing the best interests of his community, was born in Eppards Point Township, Livingston County, May 31, 1869, a son of Jacob and Rosanna (Ackerman) Brown, both of whom were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. In Germany the name was spelled Braun, but after the father located in America he changed it to Brown. Rosanna

Ackerman came to New York State, and in 1850 she was followed by Jacob Brown, who there married her and in 1864 they removed to Fairbury, Ill., where they followed farming in Eppards Point Township. Seven children were born to them: Charles, who died in infancy; John, died in 1903; William, a farmer in McLean County, Ill.; Augusta, died in infancy; Albert G.; Sophia, married Rudolph Urljers, of Fairbury, Ill.; Emma, married Campbell Fleming of Topeka, Kan. The mother died July 29, 1902, and the father is making his home with his son, Albert G. Brown.

When Albert Brown was a small boy, his father moved to what is known as the Brown School District, and the lad attended the district school and worked on the farm, remaining at home until he was twenty-four years old, when he rented the farm in 1893. It is a very fine property of a hundred acres in Avoca Township, Section 31, which he has bought from the other heirs, owning it since 1907. He has made many improvements upon it and is making a specialty of high grade stock, being devoted to his work in which he has been very successful.

On November 13, 1894, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Alzina Clay, born May 25, 1875, in Eureka, Woodford County, Ill., a daughter of John and Mahala (Carroll) Clay. Mrs. Clay, two sisters and one brother of Mrs. Brown were killed in the terrible Chatsworth wreck, August 10, 1887, and Mr. Clay died when Mrs. Brown was a baby, and she consequently has no recollection of him. But two of the once happy family are now living—Mrs. Brown and her sister Ida, wife of L. H. Van Alashine, a resident of Eureka, Ill. Mrs. Van Alashine has three children: Glenn, Ruth and Lois. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had these children: Mabel, born December 19, 1895; Della, born November 23, 1898, died December 4, 1898, and Ralph, born April 23, 1902. In politics Mr. Brown is a Republican and for a number of years has been a member of the School Board. While he and his family are not members of any church, they have always been liberal in their support of churches and lend their influence towards all measures tending to be of benefit to the community generally.

BROWN, John T.—Far removed from the tragic scenes and vivid memories of the Civil War, too many are prone to forget the heavy debt of gratitude the country owes the brave men who defended the Union in its darkest days and made it possible to overcome secession and bring about the present state of united prosperity. As long, however, as we have with us the veterans of that mighty struggle, we are reminded of this debt and recognize the fact that too much credit cannot be given to them. Among those who bravely responded to the call of patriotism in the early sixties is John T. Brown, a farmer on Section 8, Indian Grove Township, who was born in Woodford County May 10, 1846, a son of Philip M. and Fannie (Gaddis) Brown.

Philip M. Brown was a native of Tennessee



Lawrence H. Smith



Stephen S. Smith

and his wife was born in Indiana. He was brought by his parents to Illinois when a lad, and they settled in Woodford County, where he grew to manhood and met his wife who had also been brought to the same county by her parents. After marriage, the young people settled on a farm in Woodford County. Their children were as follows: Lydia A., who married William Phillips, both now deceased; Silas, who died in infancy; John T.; Mary C., who married John Robeson of Secor, Woodford County; Amos W., for twenty years Marshal of Fairbury; Philip M. J., who died in infancy; Andrew A., a resident of Pontiac; Dulcena, who married Samuel Cupps of Iroquois County; Ardenia, widow of Isaac Schearl, residing in Iroquois County; Fannie, who married Albert A. Phillips, a resident of California; Leslie E., a farmer of Iroquois County; Minnie, who married Willis Real, a farmer of Woodford County.

Philip M. Brown followed farming in Woodford County until about 1870, when he removed to Iroquois County where he lived until his death in 1895. After the death of Mr. Brown his widow returned to her daughter, Mrs. Robeson, and died there September 11, 1905. Both she and her husband were devout members of the Christian church for many years, and were very active in its work in both Woodford and Iroquois County. In politics he was a Democrat, but took little part in politics. While a resident of Pittwood, Iroquois County, he was postmaster and, in that office, showed the same regard for the public interest which has characterized his every action and won him the respect of his fellow-citizens.

The early life of John T. Brown was spent in White Oak Grove, Woodford County, where he was born, but in 1861 the elder Mr. Brown sold the homestead and removed to Panther Creek Township and John, when only sixteen years old, enlisted in Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years or during the war, at Eureka, Ill. He was mustered into service at Peoria, August 27, 1862, and the regiment was organized there and sent direct to Louisville, Ky. When he reached Louisville he was taken sick and sent home. Exposure resulted in lung fever and for three months he was in a critical condition, but as soon as he recovered he rejoined his regiment, which took part in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, and at Rome, Ga. Misfortune attended this brave soldier, for he was seriously wounded while in line of battle May 17, 1864, and lay ill in the hospital until the order was issued that the wounded soldiers from Illinois should be sent to Quincy, Ill. As soon as well enough he wanted to return to his regiment, but instead was sent to Rock Island and placed on guard duty at the military prison there, while his regiment was sent south and took part in many engagements in that region, being finally mustered out at Washington, D. C., June 6, 1865. Mr. Brown continued in service until July, 1865, and was then honorably discharged. Like many others,

his life as a soldier being ended, he returned home and once more engaged in farming.

On January 14, 1866, the returned hero married Ellen M. Stewart who had, during the days when his life was constantly in peril, watched and prayed for her soldier lover. She was born in Woodford County, November 18, 1846, a daughter of Henry and Lucinda (Swarens) Stewart, natives of West Virginia and Indiana, respectively. Both had been brought to Woodford County by their parents at an early date. Here they met and were married and made their home until 1893, when they retired to Fairbury and made their home with Mrs. Brown, the father dying June 18, 1895, and the mother in January, 1897. Of the eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart but four are now living: Mrs. Brown; John D. of Mound City, Kan.; Dora A. who married Amos Brown of Fairbury; Charles L. of Washburn, Ill. Those deceased are: Sarah C. died at the age of nine years; Eli, a member of Company A, Eighty-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was captured and sent to Andersonville for six months and died on his way home after being exchanged, at Annapolis, Md.; Mary died in infancy; Lewis C. died at the age of nineteen; Susan, deceased, married David Connors who is also deceased, and they had two children—Dora C. and Lilly A.; Henry L. died in 1888; Martha, deceased, married Gabe Richards.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brown rented a farm from the elder Mr. Brown, but in 1888 he sold his stock, and the following year rented the homestead. Still later he removed to Linn County, Kas., where he remained until 1875, when he returned to Woodford County. In 1877 he came to Livingston County and located upon rented land on Cropsy Ridge. Two years later he moved to the vicinity of McDowell in Avoca Township, and in 1884 rented 162 acres in the southwest quarter of Section 8, and for twelve years successfully operated that farm, and in 1896 moved to the northeast quarter of Section 8, Indian Grove Township, where for the past thirteen years they have resided. Mr. Brown is a good farmer and thoroughly understands his business. He gives entire satisfaction to the owner of the property and his stock and implements are very valuable.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have these children: Etta May, born June 17, 1868, died November 10, 1869; Amos L., born June 20, 1872, in Linn County, Kan., married Jennie Garmer, has two sons—Clarence L., born September 27, 1894, and John E., born August 27, 1899, and he is a farmer near his father; Ira T., born in Linn County, Kan., October 12, 1874, married Nellie Danforth, has one child—Lura M., born July 17, 1899, is a farmer in Indian Grove Township. For the past twenty years Mr. Brown has been a Director of School District No. 133, Indian Grove Township, and has always been active in educational and church work, he and his wife belonging to the Christian church. He and his wife have reared their children to be honorable, God-fearing men and are justly regarded as

representative of the best interests of their township.

BRUNSKILL, Robert.—Among the thriving farmers and prominent citizens of Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., not the least worthy of mention is the one whose name heads this sketch. Mr. Brunskill was born in that township October 11, 1862, a son of William and Susan (Ross) Brunskill, natives of England, his father born in Westmoreland, January 15, 1826, and his mother born May 19, 1833. William Brunskill, a farmer and stock-raiser by occupation, was one of the early settlers of Livingston County. Robert Brunskill was brought up on the home place, and his education was obtained in the district schools. His early manhood was spent in farm work, and, in 1888, he went to Missouri, where he was engaged in farming and shipping live-stock for three years. Returning then to Illinois, he located at Cayuga, and for a like period dealt in grain, continuing to ship stock. In February, 1894, he moved to the paternal farm in Esmen Township, and after conducting it nine years, changed his location to a farm belonging to Eli W. Pearson in the same township, on which he now follows his wonted occupation. In March, 1902, he bought of Mrs. Ella B. Hossack, 163 acres of land known as "Judge Babcock's Grove," and has greatly improved this property, stocking it with pure-bred Shorthorn cattle. In every stage of his farming experience he has met with uniform success.

On January 12, 1892, in Esmen Township, Mr. Brunskill was united in marriage with Anna M. Pearson, a native of the township, born August 22, 1868. Their union has been the source of three children, namely: Everett R., Eylar W. and Florence Mae, whose respective births took place May 18, 1894; October 25, 1895; and November 12, 1900. Everett R. graduated from the eighth grade of the country school in May, 1907, and entered the Pontiac High School on September 17th of the same year.

Mr. Brunskill was elected Township Collector on the People's ticket, in 1885, serving in that capacity three years. At present he holds the office of School Treasurer of the township, to which he was appointed in 1903.

BRYDIA, Charles Spencer, was born June 27, 1847, near Kane, Greene County, Ill., a son of Truman William and Laura Ann (Day) Brydia, who came from Vermont, to Illinois in the early '30s in wagons, and were married and began farming in Illinois. In the fall of 1856 the family emigrated to Livingston County, where a suitable home was purchased on Section 33, Saunemin Township and where Charles Spencer Brydia and his brother and sisters were reared. The other children were William Truman, of Pontiac; Mary Catherine, who married R. C. Crook, of Prophetstown, and Lucy Maria, who married C. F. H. Carrithers, of Fairbury, and died in 1893. Mr. C. S. Brydia was the third child, and although he lived on a farm, he obtained a good education, first at the district

school and later in college at Eureka, where he laid the foundation of his studious life.

On December 7, 1872, Mr. Brydia was married to Miss Harriet Ellen Funk, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Funk, who came from McLean County to Livingston in 1840. She was born at Wolf Grove, Livingston County, June 15, 1850, and has always lived in Livingston County, with the exception of four years spent with her parents near Breckenridge, Mo., during the troublous period prior to the war. This was when the war feeling ran high, and in 1860 Mr. Funk found it desirable to return to Livingston County in wagons. The greatuncle of Mrs. Brydia was Isaac Funk, the "Land King" of McLean County, and she is a branch of the Funk family so numerous in McLean County, and whose family history contains 874 pages. She attends the Funk family reunions at Funk's Grove, McLean County, and has always kept in touch with the family. Mr. Brydia's great-grandfather was a Scotchman, who came to this country and fought in the Revolutionary war, making a military record that makes Mr. Brydia eligible to belong to the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution." His mother was of German ancestry.

Mrs. Brydia was educated in the common schools of Livingston County, and became a dressmaker, and was successfully engaged in her vocation when she married Mr. Brydia. Mrs. Brydia is a typical home woman, and, as wife and mother, she makes her house the center of a charming circle to whom she dispenses a gracious hospitality. The happiness of the home is always most complete to her when the children are all there and she sees them partaking of the culinary productions which she is so skillful in preparing. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brydia; Laura Spencer, Lucy Mary, Ada M., Truman William, Fred Funk, Anna Augusta, Charles Spencer, Jr., George Sidney, Grace D., Carrie Marie, Lucette Pearl, and Harriet, of whom the first three and last two are deceased, their remains being interred in Saunemin cemetery.

After his marriage, Mr. Brydia farmed for three years, and then taught country schools until he was appointed Postmaster in Saunemin in 1885. In 1889 he purchased the "Local Record," of Fairbury, making it an Independent Democratic paper. Prior to this he had established the "Saunemin Gazette," which was Independent, and he conducted the two successfully, until he sold them in April, 1907. In August, 1883, he located in Saunemin, where he built a comfortable home and there the family resided until 1902, when he removed to his present residence, which he bought, and which is conveniently located on the corner of Locust and Eighth Streets in the First Ward, Fairbury. In 1902 Mr. Brydia added a land agency to his publishing business, which he still successfully conducts under the name of "The Brydia Land Agency."

In the fall of 1906, he was nominated by the Democrats for the office of County Superintendent of Schools, and he accepted the nomination as a public duty, believing that he could be of



Henry Hornbeck

Sarah Jane Hornbeck

assistance in emphasizing important reforms and improving the educational interests of those interested. For the first time in the history of the county Mr. Brydia gave Livingston the satisfaction of having a candidate for this office take the stump, and during his campaign he made fifty-six speeches, clearly explaining his views on the management of this office, public schools, the essentials to be taught in common schools, the prices school books should be purchased at and kindred subjects. The opposition majority was too much for him to overcome, but he reduced it largely, and in his home township, Indian Grove, which is strongly Republican, he received a plurality of 107 votes, where in 1904 the Republicans had given a plurality of 249. He made a point to leave politics entirely out of his speeches, and confined himself to the duties of the office and things pertaining to the public schools.

Socially Mr. Brydia is a member of Fairbury Camp No. 6, Modern Woodmen; Fairbury District Court of Honor, No. 256; Fairbury Chapter No. 198, Order Eastern Star; Tarbolton Lodge No. 351, A. F. & A. M. For three consecutive years he was Worshipful Master of Tarbolton Lodge and for two years he was Chancellor of Fairbury District Court of Honor.

Mr. Brydia's activity in citizenship has been indicated by his service as school director in a district where he once lived; as Assessor of Saunemin Township for two years; Village Clerk of the village of Saunemin for three years, and acting City Attorney for the same time; Postmaster at Saunemin for four years and as minority member of the Board of Review of Livingston County in 1906. He was Secretary of the Democratic Central Committee of Livingston County for ten years, and during his incumbency of this political position saw all of the offices in Livingston County, with one exception, filled by a Democrat. He is an Independent Democrat, and is a familiar figure at Democratic conventions, and many times has served as a delegate to State conventions, his opinions having been invited and given in State councils of the party, as well as those party councils of a local character. As a teacher and publisher he has been a public educator for about a quarter of a century. He is a man of positive convictions on all public questions, but is tolerant of the opinions of others. He loves his home and family, and is always on the most friendly terms with his neighbors and the public. He is a "progressive" citizen, and his "slogan" for his countrymen is, "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

He is a genial gentleman and enjoys a good story; fully appreciates the importance to his countrymen of the position of the advance guard of the progressive age. He is fully impressed with the marvelous inventive genius of his fellow citizens, as demonstrated in their invention of the corn planter, the harvester, the air-brake, the automobile, the phonograph, the telephone, the type-setting machine, the potato-digger and the corn-busker, and all the many other labor-saving and humanity benefiting devices. He is firmly of the opinion the time is not far distant

when his countrymen will hear the conductor of the aerial machines exclaim, "all aboard," and our people will step into the flying machine and sail from zone to zone, with "stop-over privileges" at intermediate points.

BRYDIA, Fred Funk, editor and publisher of the "Livingston County Democrat," the leading exponent of the Democratic party in his county, and one of the most active members of his party in Fairbury, Ill., is a man of wide experience in the newspaper business. Until 1906 Mr. Brydia was associated with his father, C. S. Brydia, also prominent in the newspaper world, in the publication of the "Local Record" at Fairbury. During the year 1907 he conducted the "Weekly Times" at Clinton, Ill., and on March 5, 1908, established the "Livingston Democrat" at Fairbury, which although a young paper, made itself felt during the campaign of 1908, and is accepted as the organ of the party in this part of the State.

Mr. Brydia was born at Forrest, Ill., May 23, 1880, a son of C. S. and Harriet (Funk) Brydia. His education was received in the public schools of Saunemin and Fairbury, and he grew up in the literary atmosphere of his home, from boyhood devoting himself to newspaper work. His editorials are forceful, intelligent and concise, and so written as to present the matter in hand in a way that everyone can comprehend his meaning. The paper is well put together, and the news items are crisp and to the point. The future of the paper is very promising, and it is safe to say, that a man of his abilities will not always remain with it, as naturally he will go into work that gives him still more opportunity to voice his sentiments.

Always a Democrat, Mr. Brydia has taken a very active part in party affairs, and he has also promoted all measures looking toward the advancement of the community. During 1904 and 1905 he served very ably as secretary of the Fairbury Fair. Fraternally, Mr. Brydia belongs to and is popular in many orders, among them being: Tarbottom Lodge No. 351 A. F. & A. M., Fairbury Chapter No. 99, R. A. M.; Yeoman of America, No. 128; Fairbury Chapter No. 198 O. E. S., and Livingston Lodge No. 290, I. O. O. F.

On June 17, 1903, Mrs. Brydia was married at Fairbury to Jessie Frances Ramsey, and they have one child, Lozang Marvene Brydia. Mrs. Brydia was born at Fairbury April 5, 1881, and she is a daughter of H. J. and Sarah Isabel (McDowell) Ramsey. She was educated in the Fairbury High School, from which she was graduated in the class of 1899. Mrs. Brydia is a member of the Fairbury Chapter No. 198 O. E. S., Charity Home Rebekah Lodge No. 112, and Yeoman of America No. 128.

BULLARD, Lucian, one of the most prominent and popular citizens of the village of Forrest, Livingston County, Ill., where he has served twenty-seven years as Postmaster with great acceptability to his fellow townsmen, and has suc-

cessively filled nearly all the offices within the gift of the people of the township, besides officiating in other appointive positions of trust, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., October 31, 1831. His parents, Luther and Sally M. (Lee) Bullard, were natives of Vermont, where the former was born February 1, 1797, and the latter, December 1, 1810. Their marriage took place in Fowler, N. Y., April 15, 1827, and was the source of seven children. In the fall of 1844 the family moved to Bureau County, Ill., making the entire journey in a wagon. Shortly after their arrival in Illinois, some of its members were stricken with typhoid fever, from which the father died November 25, 1847, and one of the sons, Chesselton, died on the 15th of the same month. Besides this son the children were as follows: Lucian, Lockhart, Barack, Delsena, wife of D. C. Igon; Olla, who died in infancy; and Morenus. The mother passed away in Forrest, Ill., April 10, 1886. Not long after the death of Luther Bullard, Lucian Bullard and his brothers bought 80 acres of government land, the price being \$1.25 per acre, and on this the subject of this sketch applied himself to hard labor until 1852. Having enjoyed but slight educational advantages and being anxious to improve his mind, he became a pupil in the academy at Granville, Ill., and subsequently took a course in the preparatory department of Knox College. In the year which followed this course he taught school one term, and then began the study of medicine at Victoria, Knox County, Ill., but gave it up at the end of nine months on account of ill health, going back to the farm. After some time he resumed his medical studies, but was compelled again to abandon the effort by reason of the continued impairment of his physical vigor, thereafter devoting his attention to the work of cabinet making. This occupied his time for three years, when he returned to the care of his farm. In 1864 he sold the Bureau County place, and in the ensuing year moved to Livingston County, purchasing the southwest quarter of section 34, in what was then township 27. In 1866 he took up his residence in Forrest, Ill., where he became prominently interested in local affairs, and rendered efficient and creditable service in various official capacities for a long period. He has always been a lover of music, and for three years acted as leader of the Forrest Musical Association. At present he is President of the organization known as the "60's Society," a local club composed of residents of the locality who are over sixty years of age. In 1872 he was appointed Notary Public, receiving his commission from Gov. John M. Palmer, and still acts in this capacity. Mr. Bullard was on board the train in the terrible Chatsworth wreck that occurred on August 10, 1887, on the T. P. & W. R. R., and was severely wounded, the effects of which he has felt during the rest of his life.

On December 31, 1861, Mr. Bullard was united in marriage with Lizzie Clement, of Bureau County, Ill., a daughter of Gilbert and Lucy Ann (Barton) Clement, who came from Vermont to Lamoille, Ill., in 1836. Mrs. Bullard is the eldest

of a family of ten children born to her parents. She is a woman of superior intelligence and many graces of character, and has long taken a leading part in the social, religious, and philanthropic activities of her locality. She is a member of the Congregational Church of Forrest, and a zealous worker in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, of which she was chosen Treasurer, in 1884, for the Ninth District of the State, embracing the counties of Woodford, Marshall, Livingston, Iroquois and Kankakee, which position she held for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Bullard have two daughters, namely: Nettie, who married Howard P. Smith, a teacher of vocal and instrumental music; and Nerva, wife of Frank E. Knapp, of Chicago.

In politics Mr. Bullard has been a staunch Republican since the organization of that party, and for many years has been recognized as a potent factor in its local councils. In 1872 he was elected Representative in the General Assembly for the Eighteenth District, serving two years. He was appointed Postmaster of Forrest under General Grant's administration in 1875, and held this office twenty-seven years, retiring in 1906. At various times he has been the incumbent of the following offices, viz.: Town Clerk for one year; Justice of the Peace, six years; Assessor, fifteen years; President of the Village Board, five years; Supervisor, six years; and Town Treasurer, thirteen years. All these positions of public trust he has filled without soliciting the vote of any man, and has served to the complete satisfaction of his constituents, discharging the duties pertaining to each with signal ability and steadfast fidelity. Fraternally, he is a charter member of Forrest Lodge, No. 614 A. F. & A. M., and as its Secretary secured the charter. For eight years he was Master of Lodge 1614, and is also a Knight Templar. Mr. Bullard enjoys the cordial esteem and unreserved confidence of all classes in the community.

BURKE, Rev. Father William J., one of the most highly efficient and deeply respected of the younger members of the Roman Catholic priesthood in Illinois, and rector of St. Peter and St. Paul's Catholic Church in Chatsworth, Livingston County, was born at Ottawa, Ill., December 23, 1868, a son of Patrick and Margaret (Cumings) Burke, the former a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, and the latter born in Canada of English ancestry. Patrick Burke, formerly a merchant and a member of the firm of Burke & Heenan, of Ottawa, was taken to that place when a child. Both parents are deceased.

The early youth of William J. Burke was passed in Ottawa, where he attended school, continuing his education in the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Ind., by taking a clerical course. After finishing his studies there, he taught two years in St. Viator's College, at Bourbonnais, Ill., then resuming his theological preparation in St. Bernard's Seminary at Rochester, N. Y., under Bishop McQuade, at that time one of the faculty of that institution, and by whom he was ordained to the priesthood in June,

1900. He next became assistant priest to Bishop O'Reilly, of St. Patrick's, in Peoria, continuing thus four years. Following this, he spent about two years in charge of the parish at Ashkum, Ill., locating in Chatsworth, November 1, 1905. He had built the first parochial residence at Ashkum, but on moving to Chatsworth found the church edifices in complete order.

The parish under Father Burke's charge has about 175 families, and besides ministering to these, he is occupied to a considerable extent with mission work, and in organizing Catholic societies and other churches, in which effort he was engaged for three years, spending several weeks alternately in each place. He also delivers lectures on miscellaneous subjects at various points, and altogether, has had a very busy and successful ministerial experience since assuming his present charge. Father Burke is greatly beloved by his parishioners.

BURNHAM, Joseph M., who has been a resident of Dwight Township, Livingston County, Ill., for forty-two years, and during this period, by dint of arduous toil, has acquired ownership of 240 acres of the best land in the township, is one of the most favorably known farmers of his locality. Mr. Burnham was born in Cumberland County, Maine, April 21, 1840, a son of Nathaniel and Mary (Mustard) Burnham, both natives of Maine. Nathaniel Burnham, the paternal grandfather, was one of the earliest settlers in the last named county, and according to tradition handed down by him, was a descendant of one of three Burnham brothers who came to America in 1683, locating in New England. Nathaniel Burnham, father of Joseph M., was a pioneer stage-driver when a young man, but afterwards turned his attention to farming, following that occupation during the remainder of his life. He died April 8, 1870, his wife having passed away many years before, at the age of twenty-three years. Joseph M. Burnham was reared to the life of a farmer, receiving his education in the common and high schools, and taking a brief course of study in one of the academies of his native State. Until he reached the age of twenty-one years his time was spent on the home farm, and at that period he went to work in a tannery, continuing thus between two and three years. In March, 1864, he came to Illinois, locating in Saunemin Township, Livingston County, where he was employed by the month for two years, afterwards changing his location to the vicinity of Ottawa, Ill., and being engaged three years as a school teacher. Thence he removed to Dwight Township, buying eighty acres of land, for which the purchase price was ten dollars per acre. To this he has since added at intervals, until his present farm comprises 240 acres. His farming operations have been attended with uniform success, and he is ranked among the most prosperous and substantial farmers of Dwight Township.

The marriage of Mr. Burnham took place February 28, 1867, when he was wedded to Jane W. Gray, who was born in Scotland, and at the

age of nine years was brought to the United States by her parents, the latter settling in La Salle County, Ill., in 1836. The father of Mrs. Burnham was a merchant in his native land, but in the new home devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits, and at the time of his death was the owner of considerable land in La Salle and Livingston Counties. Mr. and Mrs. Burnham became the parents of five children, as follows: Franklin, who died in infancy; John, whose residence is in Plano, Kendall County, Ill.; Mabel; Carrie, who became the wife of Richard Murray, and lives in Mazon, Grundy County, Ill.; and Clarence E., who pursued a course of commercial study in the Ottawa Business College, but who now follows farming in Dwight Township, Livingston County.

In political action, Mr. Burnham is identified with the Republican party. His religious connection is with the Baptist Church, as is also that of his wife, a woman of most excellent traits of character.

BURNS, John M., a prosperous farmer of Epards Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., an honored veteran of the Civil War and one of the most prominent and highly esteemed citizens of the township, was born in Elkhart County, Ind., October 10, 1837, a son of Terence and Barbara (Miller) Burns, of whom the former was born in Claysville, Ky., in 1800, and the latter was a native of Virginia. The paternal grandfather, Jonathan Burns, was a pioneer settler of Kentucky, and spent his life in that State. Catherine Miller, grandmother on the maternal side, died in Elkhart County, Ind., when the subject of this sketch was a child.

Terence Burns, the father, was educated in the common schools of Kentucky, and at a very early period located in the above named county, building a home in the woods. He cleared a tract of land there and followed farming throughout his active life, his death taking place at Goshen, Ind., in 1889. He and his wife had four children, of whom, besides John M., one son is living, namely: George W., who has been a resident of Lafayette, Ind., for more than forty years. In politics, Terence Burns was in early life a Whig, and became a Republican on the organization of that party. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church in his locality, which held its meetings at his home. His wife had been previously married, her first husband being a Mr. Lorton, by whom she had one son, Henry, who is now deceased.

John M. Burns was brought up on a farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools, the Goshen (Indiana) High School, and Oberlin College. While a student at Oberlin, he enlisted in Company C, Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving three years and four months, nine months of which period were spent in prison. He took part in the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain, Resaca and Ringgold, besides participating in numerous skirmishes. He was taken prisoner August 26, 1861, at Cross Lane, Va., by Gen. Price's army, sent to

Richmond, and was kept prisoner nine months. On being mustered out of service at Cleveland, Ohio, he returned to Indiana, whence, in 1865, he went to LaSalle County, Ill., moving in the following year to Eppards Point, Livingston County, where he bought eighty acres of land. He now owns 155 acres, all of which he has accumulated through his own energy, perseverance and good management. He is a general farmer, and is also engaged in raising stock.

On August 27, 1862, Mr. Burns was married to Catherine R. De Lotter, born in the vicinity of Dayton, O., September 23, 1838, and a daughter of Lewis and Maria (Stiver) De Lotter, natives of Maryland and Germany. Catherine De Lotter, grandmother of Mrs. Burns, born September 8, 1784, died April 9, 1872, aged eighty-seven years, seven months and one day. Her husband, Henry De Lotter, was born January 24, 1784, and died February 14, 1846, aged sixty-two years and twenty days. After the death of Mrs. Burns' mother, her father was married to Mrs. Lydia (Wysong) Miller, and moved to Kosciusko County, Ind., finally dying at Goshen. By his first wife he had five children, of whom Mrs. Burns is the only one living. His second marriage resulted in seven children, four of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Burns have had ten children, as follows: Dora Annis, Charles Augustus, Lettie Arilda (deceased), Irvin Addison, Lillie Adelia, Edith Rose, Leetha Olietta (deceased), Myrtle A. and Mitié A. twins, of whom the former died in infancy, and Ella Josephine.

In politics, Mr. Burns is a Republican and is now serving his third term as Supervisor. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CAMP, Apollos (deceased).—Conspicuous and underlying the many human elements which have contributed to the upbuilding of Livingston County since the dawn of its history, is the spirit of conservative dependability grafted upon its progress by men whose forefathers participated in the life of the eastern colonies, who, perhaps, stood upon the verge, passed through and subsequently shared in the reconstruction period of the Revolutionary War. Somewhat of the stern and unyielding moral and general traits of that now misty pageant whose brains were ceaselessly active and whose sinews were hardened by a victorious conflict with both the elements and the aborigines, filtered to their progeny, and wherever the latter have settled, have never failed to infuse into their environment practical ideals, untiring energy and unflagging courage. Of the New England invasion into Livingston County during the early '50s of the last century, none represented its character and purpose to better advantage than Apollos Camp. This early stonemason, farmer and large land-owner, whose life sank to its conclusion May 21, 1892, at the age of eighty-six years, rose from direct poverty to the ownership of more than a thousand acres of land, and to an all around influence second to none in his township.

Litchfield County, Conn., long had profited by

the high character and well directed efforts of the Camp family when Apollos was born there March 19 1806. His parents were Ephraim and Mabel (Pardy) Camp, who were married November 12, 1789, and who spent their entire lives in the State of Connecticut. Ephraim Camp was born June 8, 1756, while his wife was born July 19, 1765. Ephraim followed the martial fortunes of Washington during the Revolutionary War, stacking his musket upon many of its historic battlefields. He was in very moderate circumstances, and his son, Apollos, had the most meager of early educational and other advantages. Until ten years of age the lad attended the subscription school near his Connecticut home, and then settled down to the serious business of earning his own living as a farm hand, drifting from this occupation to the city, where he mastered the trade of stone-masonry. One of the early and worthy ambitions of his life was to create a home of his own, and while still very young, and with his financial dreams all unrealized, about seventy-five years ago he was united in marriage to Nancy Thomas niece of Seth Thomas the famous clock-maker. For the eighteen years following his marriage Mr. Camp lived on and operated the farm of Mr. Thomas and under the strain of the large responsibility his health gave way, and a change of scene and climate seemed imperative. He bought a farm three miles from Thomaston lived there five years still being in poor health.

In order to regain his strength, Mr. Camp came to Livingston County, Ill., in 1852 and took up a half-section of land in Sunbury Township. His plan was a good one and in the new surroundings he recuperated rapidly, and having gained his object returned to his home in the East. Not long after he again broke down, and hearing again the call of the West, he suggested to his friend, Bennett Humiston also a native of Connecticut, to accompany him back to Illinois, which he did. The two men located a section of land in Esmen Township and the next spring Mr. Camp brought his family from the East to share his promising fortunes. He had need of the courage and persistence of the pioneer, however, for his land was raw, game abounded and his nearest neighbor was three miles distant. The present site of Pontiac at that time boasted a house or two but there was not the slightest suggestion of the present municipal activity. It remained for him to watch the progress of a wonderfully fertile section of the State, to himself contribute to its substantial development, and to reap a larger fortune than his youth had ever anticipated in his most sanguine hours of hope. In less time than the average he had cleared and made ready his land, and gradually his operations expanded beyond his property capacity. It became necessary, therefore, for him to add to his possessions, and eventually he owned more than a thousand acres. Intermingled with his well earned success were crushing woes for in January, 1864, his beloved wife was taken from him by death, and the following September his son Edward who had been a stu-



S. A. Hoyt

dent of Lombard University, also joined the great silent majority. It took him long to recover from this double loss, but he continued to live on the farm for many years, always prosperous and devoted to country life, until finally he went to live at the home of his daughter Mrs. Humiston, in Pontiac. It was not his way utterly to relinquish business even at this advanced age, and he made it a practice to drive out almost every day to superintend the operation of his large properties.

In political affiliation Mr. Camp was a Democrat and while never aspiring to office, acceptably filled the position of Supervisor. He liked the beautiful and impressive ceremonial of the Episcopal Church, and gave liberally towards its charities and general maintenance. His niche in history is of a man who did useful things in a large and substantial way, who invariably was honest in his dealings and wise in his judgment, and who left behind him the priceless legacy of an untarnished name and noble example.

CARLTON, Frederick, (deceased).—After a long and useful life filled with good deeds and kind words, Frederick Carlton passed away, May 18, 1905, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Isaac W. Kinsey, Long Point Township, Livingston County, Ill. Mr. Carlton came of the sturdy English stock which has furnished so many of our most dependable citizens. Born in County Kent, England, January 18, 1814, he was early trained to work intelligently and faithfully. His parents, Edward and Judith (Pebble) Carlton, were also natives of County Kent, and there they passed their lives. They were the parents of seventeen children, all of whom are now deceased. Four of this number came to America, and they were Joseph, Benjamin, Edward and Frederick. Joseph died in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1836, just after his arrival. Benjamin died in Long Point Township, in September, 1905. Edward Carlton died January 23, 1908. The thirteen who remained in England were: Ann, who married and left fourteen children: Louisa, Henry, Charles, Elizabeth, William, Josiah, Myrum, Sarah, John, Mary, Jane, and Edward (2nd).

Frederick Carlton was married December 20, 1840, to Miss Sarah Winsor, whose parents were born in England. Mrs. Carlton died October 17, 1879. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Carlton: Charles, born April 17, 1842, died August 14, 1847; Caroline, born July 21, 1844, died September 20, 1845; Frances, born April 28, 1847, died May 3, 1848; Jennie, born August 22, 1850, died August 20, 1852; Betsy, born September 20, 1852, died November 6, 1852; Charlotte Eva, born March 3, 1855, married Isaac W. Kinsey; Alfred, born November 13, 1859, died January 13, 1860; Frederick, born October 30, 1862, died August 10, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Carlton mourned so sincerely over the loss of their little ones that they adopted a boy named Alfred York, born November 6, 1860, but he died August 8, 1868.

In 1842 Mr. Carlton entered 160 acres of land.

and at once commenced improving it and made out of it one of the best farms in the neighborhood. During all his life he was a hard worker and lived to reap the benefits of industry and frugality. A generous neighbor, a public-spirited citizen, always supporting measures he deemed to be for the best of the community, and a kind and loving husband and father, Mr. Carlton was deeply mourned, and his memory is tenderly cherished in the hearts of those who knew him best.

Mrs. Isaac W. Kinsey and family occupy the old Carlton homestead farm.

CARMON, Charles H., the genial and popular proprietor of a hotel, at Forrest, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Worden, Madison County, Ill., July 10, 1855, a son of Robert T. and Nancy L. (Proffitt) Carmon, natives of New York and Virginia, respectively. The father was born July 20, 1834, and the mother in January, 1835, the former dying in 1879, the latter passing away in the village of Forrest, April 16, 1904. To their union were born six children, two of whom are living, besides the subject of this sketch, namely: J. E., who is engaged in the practice of dentistry at Forrest; and Lilly (Mrs. Finnegan), of Chicago. Robert T. Carmon was brought by his parents to Illinois in 1844, and they located in Madison County, where the former grew to manhood on a farm, and in course of time was married. Subsequently he changed his location to Christian County, Ill., and there departed this life while engaged in the livery business. The boyhood and youth of Charles H. Carmon were passed in Christian County, where he received a good common-school education near his home, in the vicinity of the city of Pana. When twenty years of age he opened a restaurant and bakery in that town, which he conducted until 1884. In that year he sold out, and, moving to Livingston County, located in Forrest, building the hotel which he has since kept. It is the only first-class rural hotel in the place, and has always had a fine patronage, its service being excellent and the proprietor being extremely popular with the traveling public. In connection with the hotel accommodations, he has a well ordered lunch restaurant, provided with select edibles.

Mr. Carmon has always remained single. In politics he is a pronounced Republican, and for four years served on the staff of Governor Yates. He takes an active part in political contests, but is averse to seeking public office. Fraternally he is identified with the A. F. & A. M., being a member of Forrest Lodge, No. 614, a Knight Templar and member of Forrest Camp, Modern Woodmen of America. In religion, his early belief was in conformity with the Baptist faith.

CARR, Richard S., an enterprising and diligent farmer, of progressive spirit and up-to-date methods, who operates 170 acres of land in Es-men Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Cleveland, Ohio, August 28, 1864. His father and mother, James and Ellen (McElliot) Carr,

were born in North of Ireland, the birthplace of the former being near St. John's Point. The paternal grandparents were Richard and Anna (Logan) Carr, natives of Ireland, both of whom spent their last years in this country. When James Carr was four years of age he was brought to the United States by his parents who located in Cleveland, Ohio. There he was reared and, in course of time, was married and established himself in the grocery trade. In 1877 (his wife having died in 1873), he moved to Chicago, where he conducted a grocery for something more than four years, going thence to Washington Heights, a few miles out of the city, and farming in that locality for the next five years. In 1886 he moved to Livingston County, buying a farm of eighty acres in Esmen Township. This he sold a year later to his son Richard, returning to Cleveland and resuming the grocery business there. He still lives in Cleveland, and has married again, his second wife having formerly been Mary Ryan. James Carr is a Republican in politics, and cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He is a devout member of the Catholic Church. He and his first wife became the parents of three sons and one daughter, two of the sons, John J. and Frank Edward, being deceased. The daughter, Mary, born March 29, 1867, lives with the subject of this sketch, taking care of the household affairs.

Richard S. Carr accompanied his father in his various changes of location, above mentioned, assisting him in the grocery and on the farm, and receiving his education in the public schools of Cleveland and Chicago. In 1885, he was employed in the offices of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, at Harvard Junction, Ill., and in the following year located with his father on the Livingston County farm, buying the latter out, as before stated, in 1887. Besides this farm, he cultivates ninety acres of rented land. The home place has been greatly improved since he took possession of it, and he has met with signal success in all his undertakings. In addition to general farming, he raises full-blooded Shorthorn Durham cattle, and also Poland-China hogs and well-bred heavy horses, taking especial pride in his Wilkes strain of drivers. He is thoroughly informed on a variety of practical topics, keeps in touch with current events, being in regular receipt of the latest periodical literature, and takes an active interest in all public enterprises affecting his township and county.

Politically, Mr. Carr is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, although not inclined to office-holding. He and his sister, a most excellent woman of sound common sense and amiable disposition, are consistent members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Carr has never married.

CARRITHERS, C. F. H.—To be a political speaker requires more than average ability, for a man must possess not only the knowledge of how to speak, but he must be a natural orator. He must be able to hold his audiences, and to

carry them with him. The subject matter of a speech may be entertaining and instructive, but if it is poorly delivered it loses the greater part of its force and its effect is almost if not entirely lost. Some men seem to be born orators, and it is such as they who are chosen, whenever it is necessary, to present matters forcibly and effectively. Livingston County boasts several of this class, and perhaps none is better known than the Hon. C. F. H. Carrithers, who during the past four presidential campaigns, has gone all over the State speaking in the interests of the candidates of the Republican party under the auspices of the Republican State and National Committees.

Judge Carrithers, who has long been a resident and noted attorney of Fairbury, Ill., was born near Lacon, Marshall County, Ill., December 6, 1854, a son of William P. and Mary Esther (Barnes) Carrithers. William P. Carrithers who is a minister of the Christian Church, was born in Indiana, while his wife was born in Ohio. They were early settlers of Marshall County, Ill., and in 1874 they came to Saunemin, Livingston County, where the mother died in 1899. The father is still living in his eightieth year. Mr. and Mrs. William P. Carrithers organized the Christian Church of Saunemin.

Like almost any country boy, C. F. H. Carrithers was reared on a farm, all of his relatives except his father being farmers. From 1870 to 1874 he studied at Eureka College, Ill., and then taught school until he entered the law department of the University of Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1883 with the degree of LL. B. After graduation he settled at Fairbury, where he began the practice of law, and he has continued in active practice ever since. Judge Carrithers has always been an ardent Republican, in the belief that that party has always stood for, as it does now, the principles he believed to be the best for the welfare of the country. He has been very prominent in its ranks, and from 1884 to 1888 served as State's Attorney, and from 1897 to 1901 was Master-in-Chancery. From 1902 to 1906 he was County Judge, and for fifteen years he served as City Attorney of Fairbury. Judge Carrithers was on the Attorney General's staff from 1897 to 1898, and in all of these positions of trust and responsibility, he has brought to bear his knowledge of the law and his strong sense of justice.

Judge Carrithers has also been active in fraternal circles, being a charter member of Saunemin Lodge No. 738, A. F. & A. M., which he joined in 1876; is also a member of Fairbury Chapter No. 99, R. A. M.; St. Paul Commandery No. 34, Knights Templar; Fairbury Chapter No. 199, O. E. S., and has served as highest officer in each of these organizations. He also belonged to the Grange and the Knights of Pythias. In early life he was a member of the Christian Church, but is now a Universalist.

On October 1, 1879, Judge Carrithers married Lou M. Brydia, of Saunemin, Ill. She was born in Greene County, Ill., August 23, 1855, and died

December 2, 1893. On October 4, 1904, Judge Carrithers married Sarah L. Kelso, who was born October 10, 1869. By his first marriage Judge Carrithers has four children: Lieutenant Truman W., born July 28, 1882, graduated from the U. S. M. A., at West Point, in 1903; Mary Louise, born October 9, 1884, is now the wife of Lieutenant John B. De Lancey, U. S. A.; Fred Barnes, born May 30, 1887, is now a cadet in his third year at the U. S. M. A. at West Point; and Joe E., born February 7, 1890, who is still at home.

Judge Carrithers has always been a public-spirited man and has given his support to all measures that have been advocated and that he has believed would work out for the best interests of his community. Perhaps, though, Judge Carrithers is better known as a public speaker, for his services have been much in demand, and he has traveled all over the State, having been one of the leading speakers in every campaign since 1878. His work on the bench was such as to win him the enthusiastic friendship of the bar in every county of the State, and he is deemed the peer of the ablest members of the Illinois State judiciary. He is fearless in his support of what he deems best and right, and while he has been already greatly honored, the future holds more in store for him.

CARTER, James Albert, one of the leading young farmers of Pleasant Ridge Township, and member of one of the old families of Livingston County, was born on Section 17, this Township, a son of James H. Carter, a retired farmer of Fairbury. His birth occurred February 24, 1871, and he is therefore thirty-eight years of age. His education was secured in the school of his district and the public schools of Forrest, and he worked during the summer months on the farm, remaining at home until his marriage. He owns ninety-six acres of excellent farming land on Section 18, Pleasant Ridge Township, and also operates 296 acres which he has in corn, oats and clover, being one of the heaviest grain growers of the Township. His dairy is well equipped with all modern appliances, but for the past year he has devoted most of his attention to grain.

On September 6, 1893, he was married to Jeanie Nimmo, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, November 30, 1871, on June 12, 1872, arriving with her parents in the United States. The Nimmo family settled in Fairbury Ill., where for some time William Nimmo was engaged in mining, but later purchased land near Fairbury and, at the time of his death, December 31, 1887, owned 240 acres of excellent farming land. His wife was Catherine (Arbuckle) Nimmo, a most estimable lady. These children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nimmo: William, a farmer located near Fairbury; George, also a farmer, located near Fairbury; Lizzie, who married Fred Gillman, a farmer near Pontiac; Katie, at home with her mother in Fairbury, and Mrs. Carter. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have three children: James W., born April 23, 1895; Ruth, born August 4, 1903,

died December 14, 1904; Ralph E., born January 13, 1906. Mrs. Carter was graduated from the Fairbury High School, class of 1889, and for six years was one of the popular teachers of the county. When she became acquainted with Mr. Carter, she was teaching in District No. 202, of which he was a director.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter are members of the M. W. A., and she is an active member of the Royal Neighbors. Both are members of the Baptist Church and are much interested in religious work. Since he was twenty-one years of age, Mr. Carter has been school Director of District No. 202. He has also served as Canada Thistle Commissioner, and is now on the County Central Committeeman from Pleasant Ridge Township. A Republican in political belief, he has always been very active in the council of his party, and the future no doubt holds higher elective offices in store for him.

CARTER, James H., one of the largest land-owners of Livingston County, a veteran of the Civil War and a man widely and favorably known, who for more than a quarter of a century was a farmer of this locality, but who is now living retired in Fairbury, was born in La Salle County, Ill., April 20, 1841, a son of Sylvester and Christiana (Hart) Carter, natives of New York and Scotland, respectively. Sylvester Carter and wife came to Illinois about 1838, settling near Ottawa, where he died in the summer of 1849, when James H. Carter was only eight years of age. He and his brother were the only children born to his parents. Left thus early without a father, the lad was forced to work hard upon the farm and content himself with a somewhat meager education, although he has added largely to his fund of knowledge by careful observation assisted by an excellent memory.

When twenty years of age he responded to the call of his country, enlisting in September, 1861, in Company I, Fourth Illinois Cavalry at Ottawa, and he participated in the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth and in many other engagements of less importance, and at the expiration of his term of service in November, 1864, was mustered out at Springfield. By order of the War Department on January 18, 1865, the members of the regiment whose terms had not expired were consolidated with the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. Mr. Carter served three years and two months, was with his regiment on all its long marches, was always present at roll-call and ready for picket duty or to respond for any service required of him, during all of his experience ever proving himself a loyal, brave and faithful soldier and honorable gentleman. His honorable discharge was received on October 29, 1864, shortly before he was mustered out. During the war he frequently saw the celebrated "Old Abe" eagle, the "mascot" of a Wisconsin regiment. During the battle of Shiloh, he circled over the battle field as though he appreciated the importance of the great struggle and sought to give encouragement to his friends.

His life as a soldier over, Mr. Carter returned to Ottawa, but shortly thereafter removed to Livingston County deciding to settle there permanently. With this idea in view he bought eighty acres of land in Pleasant Ridge Township, but sold it in 1868, and bought 320 acres on Sections 17 and 18, in the same Township, and this he brought into a high state of cultivation. Upon it he built a substantial house and large barns, as well as all necessary outbuildings. He also stocked the farm with high grade cattle and became one of the most prosperous farmers in Livingston County. From time to time he added to his holdings until at the time of his retirement he owned 720 acres of the best farming land to be found in Central Illinois.

On May 30, 1867, Mr. Carter was married to Miss Ruth A. Wilson, who was born in Livingston County, August 9, 1848, a daughter of Isaac and Harriet (Bishop) Wilson. Mrs. Wilson died in 1881 and Mr. Wilson removed to Moline, Elks County, Kan., where he died. Mr. and Mrs. Carter had three sons: Isaac S., farming at Thawville, Ill.; James A. and Alvah L., now farming on the homestead in Section 18, Pleasant Ridge Township. Mr. and Mrs. Carter live in their comfortable home in Fairbury, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, enjoying their declining years free from all worry. Mr. Carter has always been ready to respond to the call of duty and has been the successful candidate of the Republican party for several Township offices. In 1868 he was elected Justice of the Peace from Pleasant Ridge Township and served widely and acceptably for twelve years in that capacity. He has been Township Clerk, School Trustee and in 1875 was elected Supervisor and at that time was one of the leading as well as the youngest members of the Township Board. Naturally he is very much interested in the G. A. R., and belongs to Fairbury Post No. 75. Stanch, reliable, hard working, Mr. Carter sets an example to the growing generation of what can be accomplished by strict adherence to duty and the highest principles of morality, and Livingston County may be well proud of him as a representative citizen and prosperous retired farmer.

CARTER, Lucius S., one of the most advanced and progressive farmers and prosperous residents of Livingston County, whose fine farm on Section 25 testifies to his skill, was born in La Salle County, Ill., May 5, 1849, a son of Sylvester and Lucy (Pine) Carter. Mrs. Lucy Carter is now making her home with her son Lucius, and has attained the advanced age of ninety years. She enjoys excellent health, possesses a good memory and enjoys relating experiences of her eventful life. Her father was a soldier in the War of 1812, and lived to be 100 years and ten months old. There is in the possession of Mr. Carter's son John the razor with which his great-grandfather shaved himself on the day he was 100 years old. This remarkable old gentleman was a resident of Lee County, Ill., where he

died, having been for many years one of the prosperous farmers of that locality. On the maternal side of Mrs. Lucy Carter's family, she is related to Gen. Ethan Allen of Revolutionary fame, her mother having been an Allen and a native of Vermont.

Sylvester Carter came to Illinois with his parents about 1836, and settled in LaSalle County, where he was thrice married. His first wife was a Miss Hart, and she bore him two sons: James H., a prominent farmer of Pleasant Ridge Township, but now retired in Fairbury; and Joseph, a successful farmer of Champaign, Ill. The second wife was a Mrs. Dota. Mr. Lucius Carter is the only child born to his parents, his father dying in 1849 from an attack of cholera which was epidemic in the state that year. Left so young without a father, the brave lad gave up his school advantages and, when only thirteen years of age, rented land and farmed it under an agreement that he was to receive one-third of the crop. That this did not amount to much can be gathered from the fact that his first load of corn was sold for ten cents per bushel. This was not the worst, however, for he was paid in wildcat money as it was then called, paper money issued by the State Banks, good to-day, worthless to-morrow if anything happened to the bank. With a foresight remarkable in one so young, Mr. Carter did not hold any of this money, but exchanged it for the necessities of life as soon as it was given him and thus avoided a loss. In 1862 he engaged in farming for the various farmers, working by the day or month. In the spring of 1868 he secured employment breaking wild land, a very difficult job, for much of the land was under water and only drained by ditches. He was paid \$3.00 per acre for his hard work. In 1871 he was driving a team of horses which ran away, and he was thrown and had the misfortune to break both his hips so that for two years he was unable to work, but eventually recovered.

On October 10, 1872, he married Margaret M. DeMoss, a daughter of Henry J. DeMoss, deceased. She was born September 20, 1856. After his marriage Mr. Carter rented land in Pleasant Ridge Township, where they lived until 1881 when he rented 160 acres on Section 27, and there for twenty-five years he successfully farmed. In 1884 Mr. Carter bought 85 acres on Section 25, in Avoca Township, to which he added until he now owns 125 acres, and upon which the family moved in December, 1905. The Carter home is one of the most pleasant in that township. Books, magazines and musical instruments furnish entertainment and literary food, and the young people are encouraged to invite their friends and enjoy themselves in the midst of their home surroundings. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have given their children every advantage within their power and are very progressive in their ideas relative to the bringing up of young people.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Carter: John H., born December 15, 1873, at



B. Humiston

home engaged in farming; M. Mabel, born April 6, 1889, was well educated in the district school, the Fairbury High School and the State University, and is now at home assisting her mother; Harry Allen, born June 23, 1892, is also at home. For a quarter of a century Mr. Carter has been School Director in Pleasant Ridge Township, and has served as School Trustee in Avoca Township. He is a Republican in politics and active in the local councils of that party. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church of Avoca. Mr. Carter belongs to Fairbury Camp M. W. A. Mrs. Carter has been a member of the Missionary Society for the past eighteen years, also a member of the Aid Society. Mr. Carter has always supported public measures calculated to advance the best interests of the community and his judgment is relied upon by his neighbors.

Although still in the prime of life Mr. Carter remembers many of the incidents of pioneer life and relates them with much native humor. He tells of the days when it took a team of four horses to haul a sack of flour over the bottomless roads, and across the streams that had neither ford nor bridge. However, through all his adversities he remembered his grandfather's maxim: "Don't cry over spilt milk, but be careful not to spill it;" and perhaps his success in life is due to the fact that he has always made the best of everything, and thus been able to accomplish so much.

CAUGHEY, John, a well known and prosperous farmer of Charlotte Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a man standing high in the estimation of his fellow townsmen, was born in La Salle County, Ill., January 5, 1858. His parents, Samuel and Eliza (Marshall) Caughey, natives of Beaver County, Pa., moved to Illinois in 1854, settling in LaSalle County. Samuel Caughey was a house and bridge carpenter by trade, and followed this occupation up to the time of his marriage. After his removal to Illinois he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, continuing this until his death. He and his wife had three sons, and when the family located in Livingston County, the subject of this sketch was twelve years of age. The latter was reared to farm life, receiving his education in the common schools. Since early manhood he has been a farmer, and has accumulated a valuable property. His brother, Robert S., is also engaged in farming in the same section.

Mr. Caughey was married on November 26th, 1884, to Rebecca Townsend, who was born in Fairbury, Livingston County. Their union resulted in three sons and four daughters, one son dying in infancy. The surviving children are: Grace, John, Fred, Nellie, Mabel and Marie.

Politically, Mr. Caughey follows the fortunes of the Republican party. For a number of years he has held the office of School Director. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church.

CHASE, John R., than whom no farmer is more favorably known in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he is successfully operating 160 acres of land, was born in Epping, Rockingham County, N. H., November 8, 1842. His father, Josiah Prescott Chase, was born in the same town, March 24, 1817, and the birth of his mother, Shuah B. (Brown) Chase, occurred in the same county, May 5, 1820. Their marriage took place April 19, 1838. Jonathan Chase, the paternal grandfather, whose wife was Honor Lucy (Prescott) Chase, owned a farm of 200 acres in New Hampshire; and the grandparents on the maternal side, Lawrence and Mary (Blake) Brown, were natives of that State, the former born October 2, 1796, and the latter, April 8, 1817. In 1854 Josiah P. Chase, father of John R., came to Illinois, locating in Bureau County and buying 160 acres of land, which he soon afterwards sold, spending a short period in Putnam County and two years near Tonica, LaSalle County, on land which he rented. Then he went back to New Hampshire and after a six months' sojourn there, returned to Illinois, locating in LaSalle County. In 1861 he moved to Round Grove Township, Livingston County, near Dwight, purchasing 160 acres of raw prairie land, on which stood, alone, a small plum tree. On this farm he spent the remainder of his career, dying April 3, 1905, his wife having passed away May 31, 1897. In youth he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a consistent Christian to the end of his career, as was also his faithful spouse, throughout her life. Politically, he was a Republican, and served the public as School Director of his township.

John R. Chase received his education in the public schools, and worked for his father until he reached the age of twenty-five years. Then, for two years, he was employed in Bureau County, in a nursery belonging to Arthur Bryant, a prominent man in his locality. Following this, he moved to Princeton, Ill., where his father-in-law conducted the "Sherman House." In connection with this hotel, Mr. Chase kept a feed-barn ten years, after which he bought a place, and, for about three years, applied himself to teaming, moving thence to Chicago, where he worked five years as a teamster. Relinquishing this occupation, he went to work in the Frog and Crossing Foundry, at South Chicago, where he remained five years, going thence to Whiting, Ind., and being employed two years by the Standard Oil Company. Finally, he returned to the home farm, which he conducted until the death of his father, afterwards renting it. The homestead has undergone a great change since the days of its solitary plum tree. Now it is adorned by a fine grove of maples, and many other trees of different varieties make the scene attractive.

Mr. Chase has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was wedded November 13, 1867, was Matilda A. Best, born in Carrollton, Ohio, November 26, 1843, but died October 28, 1903. This union was the source of one child, Frank A., born at Princeton, Ill., November 13, 1871. The present Mrs. Chase, formerly Emma

B. (Wilkeson) Bonin, was born August 10, 1871, a daughter of James and Sarah Wilkeson, who came from New York State, settling in LaSalle County, Ill., at an early period. The first husband of Mrs. Chase was James Bonin, who was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1874, and died July 10, 1903. By him she had two children, namely: Sarah Phoebe, born January 19, 1897; and Margaret Emma, born June 22, 1901—the birthplace of both being in LaSalle County. Mr. Chase is the eldest of a family of twelve children, the others being as follows: Lucy, born August 2, 1844; Lawrence B., born March 29, 1846; Mary E. and Eunice, twins, born October 13, 1847—the former deceased; Charles M., born May 21, 1849; George K., born April 5, 1851; Josiah, born October 19, 1852; Sarah E., born September 26, 1854; Emma F., born November 13, 1856; Frank, born April 6, 1859; and Mary, born June 25, 1862. The last four are deceased.

Politically, Mr. Chase has always been an ardent Republican, and although never seeking public office, has served as School Director. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Foresters, his connection with that order dating back thirty years.

CHURCH, Frederick J., (deceased), for many years a well-known farmer in Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill., a leading and highly respected citizen by all on account of the worthy traits of his character, was born in Keyville, Dutchess County, N. Y., January 23, 1823. He was a son of John and Phoebe (Barton) Church, the former born in Amherst, Mass., and the latter in Dutchess County, N. Y. In 1844 John Church moved with his family to Putnam County, Ill., locating in the vicinity of Hennepin, where both parents spent their last days. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of New York State, and on coming to Illinois with his father and mother, went to work as a clerk in a store in Putnam County, being subsequently occupied in farming. In 1855 he changed his location to Livingston County, from whence he enlisted, September 22, 1864, in Company C, Forty-fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, remaining with his regiment until the close of the war, and being discharged July 7, 1865. In 1868 he settled on a farm of eighty acres in Owego Township, which is still the family home. His death occurred on this place, January 28, 1896, and his loss was deeply felt by a wide circle of friends. Politically, he was allied with the Democratic party, and served for a considerable period as Justice of the Peace, being appointed under Governor Yates, the old War Governor, April 23, 1862. Fraternally, he was identified with the I. O. O. F., during many years. His religious connection was with the Society of Friends, in which he was reared, his wife being an adherent of the Baptist faith.

The marriage of Mr. Church took place December 3, 1855, on which date he was wedded

to Mary A. Wheatland, a native of Piqua, Ohio, where she was born August 22, 1837, a daughter of Isaac and Ann (Forbes) Wheatland, both of whom were natives of the vicinity of Leeds, England. On coming to the United States they first located in Miami County, Ohio, where the father of Mrs. Church cleared a tract of farming land. In 1837 he journeyed with his family to LaSalle County, Ill., driving through with a team. He died in LaSalle County in 1847, his wife having passed away in 1844. Both parents were members of the Methodist church. Their family consisted of eight children, of whom two sons and two daughters are still living. William Wheatland, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Church, who was of English nativity and settled in Ohio in the '30s, afterward came to Illinois and was a circuit preacher in LaSalle and Livingston Counties. To Mr. and Mrs. Church were born eight children, as follows: William H. and Frank A., both educated in the common schools, and residents of Pontiac, Ill.; Phoebe, wife of Lynn Bennett, of Carlisle, Ark.; Emma, wife of Henry Bennett, of Saukemin, Ill.; Sarah, wife of James Harris, of Pontiac, Ill.; Alberta, wife of Adam Herb, of Emmington, Ill.; Elizabeth, who married Jacob Bashore; and Elsie Orene, at home. The last named attended the common schools and completed her education in the Pontiac High School, graduating therefrom in 1896. For several years she has been engaged in teaching. The sons and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Church are much esteemed in their several localities, and all have reflected credit upon the teachings and example of their respected parents.

The autographs underneath the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Church which appear in this volume were both written with a gold pen used by Mr. Church in his clerical work in the army during the Civil War.

CLARK, Frank.—Thirteen times elected Assessor of Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Ill., Frank Clark's long service in this office is sufficient evidence of his ability and fidelity to duty, but it is due to him to say that he has, in his public capacity, displayed only the same traits which have characterized his private life—strict attention to the details of his work and thoughtful and intelligent management—qualities which could not fail to bring satisfactory results. Mr. Clark keeps thoroughly posted on public events, especially those concerning the principles and successes of the Democratic party, of which he is an enthusiastic member, as well as those of general interest, and is highly esteemed as an intelligent, substantial citizen of his township. Mr. Clark was born in Troy, N. Y., December 13, 1855, a son of James and Bridget (Linch) Clark, natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1847. Their parents never left their native land. Settling in Troy, N. Y., they remained until 1864, when they removed to LaSalle County, Ill., but after a short stay there located in Livingston County, where he died two years later. They had chil-

dren as follows: Mary, married Frank Carey, a blacksmith of Kempton, Ford County, Ill.; Joseph, who disappeared about 1894; Frank, and a daughter, who is a Sister in the nunnery at Whiting, Ind., where the mother died in 1885.

After obtaining a rather meager education in the common schools and all the time working on the farm, Frank Clark developed into a sturdy young man of twenty-one and, soon after attaining his majority, went to Kempton, Ford County, Ill., and there began learning the trade of blacksmithing. He worked at his trade for seven years, and later for nine years, and had bargained for his smithy tools when he was given a position in an elevator. He also coupled cars, and while employed in this dangerous work, had the misfortune to lose his left arm close to the shoulder. Following this he canvassed for books for three years, patiently enduring the blasting of his hopes and the overturning of his plans, through his agreeable manner and courteous bearing meeting remarkable success. Among the general line of books he carried was Grant's *Travels Around the World*, which was his big seller in 1888.

Returning to Sunbury Township, he bought forty-one acres of land, to which he has added until he now owns eighty-one acres in Section 21. On April 30, 1892, Mr. Clark married Miss Catherine (Mooney) Ruddy, a daughter of Michael Mooney, one of the pioneers of Livingston County. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have had children as follows: Ella and James, twins, born April 1, 1895; Mary, born October 1, 1899, and two who died in infancy. Mr. Clark has seen many changes take place in the county during his residence in it. When he first came here there were only three houses between his home and Dwight, a distance of ten miles, and wild game was very plentiful. He has seen deer gather about the hay stack in the farm yard, and wild geese and prairie chickens were often used as food. The wolves were more plentiful than was agreeable and not only preyed upon the stock, but kept them all awake by their howling. Land, which was under water, has been turned into fertile fields, roads have been built, and all the improvements of the most highly developed civilization in the world has taken hold of Livingston County. Mr. Clark is one of the most active Democrats of his township, and is deeply interested in the success of his party. His long service as Assessor of the Township is duly appreciated, and he has also given his services as School Director in District No. 115. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are Catholics. There are very few men who could have overcome so serious a misfortune as that which fell to the lot of Mr. Clark, and accomplished as much as he has done. Through it all he has preserved his optimistic view of life and is ever ready with a laugh at his own jokes or those of another. A pleasant, kindly nature is his, and he makes friends everywhere.

CLARK, Homer Justin.—The genealogy of the

Clark family is traced back to Scotland and Ireland, and from the latter country, about the year 1750, Rev. Thomas Clark, D.D., a great-uncle of Homer Justin Clark, brought a colony of emigrants to America, settling a portion of them in Washington County, N. Y., and the balance at Long Cane, S. C. Judge Ebenezer Clark, a son of the immigrant minister, became one of the most noted men of his day. During the Revolutionary War he was a brave soldier and, later, was a member of the Constitutional Convention of New York, after which for many years he held office as Judge of the Superior Court of that State. Another honored member of the family was Dr. Thomas Clark, born in Scotland, educated in Edinburgh, and who came to this country after receiving his degree. He settled in Washington County, N. Y., marrying Miss Isabella Campbell, a member of the Campbell Class of Scotland. He then went West, becoming a pioneer physician in the country west of Detroit, 1820-30. Among the children of Dr. Clark was a son, John Lawrence, who married Laura McManus and settled in Peoria County, Ill. There his son, Homer Justin, was born September 20, 1853, and there he passed many years of useful activity.

The youthful days of Homer Justin Clark were uneventfully passed in public and private schools, and afterward (1875-76) he took a partial classical course in Monmouth (Ill.) College, leaving, however, before his graduation. Taking up the work of an educator, he first taught in country schools, and then was promoted to be principal of the schools at Princeville, Peoria County, where he continued to reside from 1879 to 1881. From 1882 to 1884 he was Superintendent of Schools of Gibson City, after which he resigned his position and retired from educational work for the more fascinating field of journalism. Since then he has risen to a high rank in editorial work and has wielded the influence invariably exerted by those who have built up a high-class paper. From 1884 to 1897 he was a member of the firm of Lowry & Clark, editors and proprietors of the "Pontiac Sentinel." In 1902 he organized the Pontiac Leader Publishing Company, of which he is now the President, Julia S. Scott the Vice-President, and L. V. Pearre Secretary and Treasurer. The principal business of the company is the publishing of the "Pontiac Daily and Weekly Leader," in addition to which they do job work and printing of all kinds.

Since establishing his home in Pontiac in 1884, Mr. Clark has been foremost in all movements for the benefit of the city. Especially has educational work received his encouraging co-operation, and he is now an active member of District No. 95, Board of Education. This office he filled for the first time from 1891 to 1897, then was again elected in 1901, since which he has continued in the office. The Chautauqua Riverview Assembly owes much to his progressive efforts as a director, and the Young Men's Christian Association of Pontiac also is greatly indebted to him for his resourceful efforts as

director and corresponding secretary. Fraternal-ly he is identified with the Modern Woodmen and Pontiac Lodge No. 294, A. F. & A. M. For many years he has been a trustee in the Presbyterian church and now holds the office of an elder in the congregation. His marriage was solemnized October 30, 1878, at Harker's Corners, Peoria County, Ill., uniting him with Miss Julia M. Scott, by whom he has three children, Lawrence Addison, Bruce Edmund and Grace Eleanor.

The local councils of the Republican party owe much to the sagacious judgment and capable co-operation of Mr. Clark, who many times has been chosen a delegate to county, district and State conventions of the party, and in 1904 was an Alternate Delegate to the National Convention. Under Comptroller of Currency Charles G. Dawes he was National Bank receiver 1898-1900, during which time he was appointed to take charge of the First National Bank of Wilmington, N. C., the First National Bank of Johnson City, Tenn., the Second National Bank of Columbia, Tenn., and the First National Bank of Middlesboro, Ky.

CLARK, Luther, (deceased), a substantial farmer and public-spirited citizen, for thirty years a deacon in the Congregational church and a man who for many years took a prominent part in Union Township affairs, was born April 29, 1825, in Amherst, N. H., of parents who were natives of that State, and had a family of four children, two sons and two daughters. His death occurred in Union Township, May 13, 1902, when he was seventy-seven years of age. For several years prior to his emigration to Illinois in 1850, Mr. Clark resided in New York, but upon reaching Illinois he settled on a farm near Ottawa, and there remained until he enlisted in the First Regiment Nebraska Volunteers, in which he served four years and nine months, the last two years being spent on the plains fighting Indians. He participated in the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh and the Siege of Vicksburg, winning the reputation of a brave and gallant soldier.

Returning from the wars he bought what became his homestead, a very valuable property in Union Township, upon which he spent the remainder of his life. On March 11, 1852, he married Harriet Call, of Plattsburg, N. Y., who came of Revolutionary stock. Some of her ancestors fought in the Revolution and in the War of 1812, and five brothers took part in the Civil War, three of whom laid down their lives in the same conflict. She was one of a family of nine children. Mr. and Mrs. Clark were the parents of six children—four girls and two boys. Of this family Mrs. Rosa Mosher has one boy and one girl; Mrs. Jessie Beecher lives in Nebraska; Mrs. Emma Drew is a resident of Gardner, Ill., where her husband is a grain buyer; Martin Luther is a farmer of Clarion, Iowa; Lutie married and died at the age of twenty; Charlie S., now on the homestead, is

thirty-five and unmarried. Mr. Clark always took an active part in the Congregational church, and his memory is perpetuated by a handsome memorial window. He was a Republican in politics and held a number of local offices, always discharging the duties devolving upon him with the same conscientious faithfulness which characterized all his actions. Mr. and Mrs. Clark celebrated their golden wedding two months before the demise of Mr. Clark, and it was a most happy event. The happiness of the aged husband and father is a pleasant memory for his widow and children.

CLAUDON, Nicholas B., grain dealer and general business man, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. History shows to what extent America is indebted to Frenchmen for aid in the trying revolutionary period. The annals of later years bear evidence of the fact that Frenchmen have, in every way, demonstrated their high citizenship. This is true in New Orleans, in St. Louis and in other centers of French population in the United States, and is no less true in smaller towns, throughout the country. Illinois is fortunate in having many such admirable citizens of French birth and extraction. The name of Claudon, distinctly French, is well known in this part of the State, and it has no more conspicuous representative than the gentleman whose name appears above.

Nicholas B. Claudon was born in Loraine, France (now Germany), January 9, 1855, a son of Nicholas and Barbara (Bachler) Claudon, both natives of Loraine. His father was born in 1800, and one of the early historic incidents of his life was the experience of guarding prisoners of Napoleon's army. His mother was born in 1814 and lived to be sixty-four years old. They had seven children, five of whom were sons. Christian Claudon came to America about 1859 and located at Hopedale, Tazewell County, Ill., afterward settling at Chenoa, where he died about 1891, leaving two daughters named Martha and Annie. He was a successful farmer. The next to come was Joseph Claudon. He located near Pekin, Ill., and married there. Later he settled on a farm in the vicinity of Gridley. He died near Flanagan, Livingston County, leaving six children, three of whom were sons. Mary Claudon married Daniel R. King and they are both dead. It was due to their beneficence that the Salem Orphanage near Flanagan was established. They gave for the Institution 100 acres of land. It is one of the best managed orphanages in the State, creditable alike to Mr. and Mrs. King and to the public. Andrew B. Claudon is a banker, financial leader and prominent citizen of Fairbury. Peter Claudon, a retired farmer, lives at Chenoa. Barbara married Christian Sommer, a prominent farmer and citizen of Belleflower, McLean County, Ill. The immediate subject of this sketch, who was the youngest of the family, came to the United States in 1873.

Nicholas B. Claudon spent his childhood and boyhood in his native land, and attended school



Harriet J. Garrison

until he was fourteen years old. During the Franco-Prussian War, he being then about sixteen, was captured by German soldiers and was compelled for three days to haul provisions for the enemies of his country, on the line near Strassburg. His father being a farmer, the boy assisted him in his labors. By 1873 his brothers and all his sisters but one had, one by one, left the old home and his brothers had written him letters from America telling him of the splendid opportunities offered here for getting on in the world. He came over, and soon made his way to Chenoa, Ill., where, during the next four years, he divided his time between farm work and study in the common schools. In 1877 he went to live with his sister, Mrs. King, near Flanagan, on the farm now occupied by the Orphanage already referred to. There he remained until 1881, when, as a member of the firm of Stuckey & Claudon, he engaged in the mercantile business at Danvers, McLean County, Ill. His enterprise was one of the leading ones of its kind in that part of the State.

February 2, 1882, Mr. Claudon married Miss Mary A. Schertz, a native of East Peoria and a daughter of Joseph Schertz, a Frenchman by birth, who had located at Peoria while that place was still called Fort Clark, from the Fort there which had been named in honor of Gen. George Rogers Clark. Mr. Schertz, who had been brought to the place when he was only six years old, had among his playmates many little Indians. In later life he liked to speak of his experiences of the pioneer days.

In 1883 Mr. Claudon closed out his business at Danvers and removed to Fairbury, where, as a member of the firm of Claudon Brothers, in which his brother A. B. Claudon was his partner, they bought the East End Elevator, which had a capacity of about 40,000 bushels. In 1889 he and his brother sold the elevator and terminated their partnership, A. B. Claudon going into the banking business, while Nicholes B. continued the grain business with other and larger plans in view. In 1902 he erected his present elevator, a thoroughly up-to-date establishment, supplied with the latest devices, first class in every detail, for handling grain—an elevator which, taken all in all, is one of the best in this part of the State. It will be remembered that he had begun business at the East End Elevator with a capacity of 40,000 bushels. Its capacity with the present equipment is now fully 150,000 bushels. Mr. Claudon has been in the grain business continuously at Fairbury for a quarter of a century, and if this fact is considered, he should rank, if not as a pioneer, at least as the oldest grain-dealer in the town. In 1902 his son Chester J., became his partner, and the firm has since been styled N. B. Claudon & Son, and is probably as widely and as favorably known as any grain concern in the State.

To Mr. and Mrs. Claudon have been born two children: Chester J., junior member of the firm of Claudon & Son, was born December 30, 1882, graduated from the Fairbury High School with

the class of 1900 and from the Metropolitan Business College with the class of 1901; Frances G., born May 28, 1886 graduated from the Fairbury High School with the class of 1904 and has since been graduated from St. Mary's College at Knoxville, Knox County, Ill., an institution devoted to instruction in music, language and painting. A young lady of many accomplishments, she is an artist of fine taste and recognized ability. The home of the Claudon family, at Fourth and Elm Streets, Fairbury, is widely known for its generous hospitality and Mr. Claudon, loving it better than he loves any other place on earth, and always solicitous for the happiness of his wife and children, has done everything in his power to make it complete and beautiful.

Mr. Claudon, who is regarded as one of the successful business men of Livingston County, came there scarcely more than a boy in 1873, with little capital, but with determination to achieve honorably and worthily. By honesty and square dealing with his fellow men, he has won the full confidence of one and all, and in every way he has done his full share to promote the advancement of the community. Especially in educational matters has he been a leader, and for six years he has been a member of the local Board of Education. In politics he is a Republican, but while ardently devoted to the success of Republican principles and always ready to assist in promoting their realization, he is utterly without personal political ambition and has steadfastly refused to accept office unless it offered him opportunities for helpfulness which were not otherwise attainable. He is a Knight of Pythias and a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America. In the last mentioned order he held the title of Venerable Counsellor for three years. While not holding membership in any church, the family are attendants upon the services of the Presbyterian organization in Fairbury.

CLEARY, Michael.—Livingston County offers no more inspiring example of practical and successful adaptation to its largest needs and opportunities than is found in Michael Cleary, a name and a personality which carry weight in monetary, political, ethical, social and religious circles, and which spells success, not only because of extensive land accumulation and general wealth, but by reason of connection with the broadest and most public spirited legislation known to the history of this part of Illinois. In his departure from merely average accomplishment, Mr. Cleary fulfills a natural expectation; for his family has been one to conjure with ever since its establishment in the country in the beginning of the '40s. Its shifting to the land of the Stars and Stripes has meant material strengthening of the popular estimate of the best class of Irishmen uprooted from their native soil and transplanted remote from the limitations of their beautiful but tax-ridden fatherland. For five centuries those bearing the

name tilled the soil in County Tipperary, Ireland, Parish of Cahir, where Micheal was born February 9, 1840, and where were born also his parents, Philip and Mary (Heffenan) Cleary.

Philip Cleary was the first of his family impelled by sufficient discontent to discard romantic national attachment for the practical results of labor. His ambition led him on March 25, 1840, when his little son Michael was less than two months old, to embark in a sailing vessel which, after nine weeks of storm and calm, arrived in Philadelphia. Mr. Cleary soon after took his family to Youngstown, Ohio, where he secured employment on the Hocking Valley Canal, and in 1841 he came by way of steamboat and prairie schooner to what then was Spring Creek, but now Spring Valley, Bureau County, Ill. Here he rented and finally bought forty acres of land, but, in 1844, when work was resumed on the long discontinued Illinois Canal, owing to funds having been raised in England, he found continuous employment thereon until the completion of the waterway. During four years of this time he lived three miles west of Morris, Ill., where he cut the logs, moved them with a yoke of oxen purchased for the purpose, and erected the log cabin which was to remain his home for eight years. In 1848 he moved this weather defying little abode twenty-one miles to Ottawa, on one of the lots of William Reddick, one of the wealthiest men in the State, and in 1868 he settled in Odell, Livingston County, and made his home with his son Michael until his death, May 17, 1884, at the age of eighty-two years, eight months and fifteen days. He had been a widower for twenty-three years, his wife having died in Ottawa in September, 1861. Mr. Cleary was a Democrat in politics, but no office-seeker, and he was a devout member of the Roman Catholic church. Sharing his growing fortunes were eleven children, of whom four living, namely: Margaret, wife of John Condon, of Chicago; John, a resident of Jacksonville, Ill.; Michael; and Lawrence, a farmer of Odell Township.

Michael Cleary laid the foundation of his business success by study at the subscription school at Ottawa, later attending the public schools while helping to assist his father on the home farm. At the age of twenty-one years he became manager of the property, and in 1865 bought half a section of land, paying for the same in a characteristically original and resourceful manner. This land was of the prairie order, part of it obtained from the Government, and he began paying for it at the rate of twelve bushels of corn per acre. He did not occupy it, however, until the indebtedness was entirely cancelled in 1868, the year 1867 yielding a large crop of corn which netted him a dollar a bushel. He began housekeeping with his wife and daughter and father, and so well were his affairs managed that continual increase in his possessions has resulted, he being the owner at the present time of 1200 acres in Odell, Union and Nevada Townships, Livingston County, 200 acres in Indiana, 280 acres in Iowa, and 440 acres in

Will County, Ill., besides property in Odell and other nearby towns. It will be seen that the faculty of accumulation has been surprisingly developed in Mr. Cleary, the more so as his advancement has been along entirely honorable and legitimate lines, partaking in not even the smallest degree of the irrational or speculative element, and achieved by the invariable retention of the highest of business principles and ethics.

In keeping with his material success, Mr. Cleary evidenced many sided interest in the affairs of the communities which have profited by his sagacity and business judgment. An earnest champion of Democratic principles, he has been Supervisor continuously since 1874, for a part of that time being Chairman of the Board. His most prominent service was rendered, however, as Representative in the General Assembly, to which he was elected for three successive terms (1882-88), and during which terms he was a member of many important committees. He himself was the author and secured the passage of three bills, that regulating the charges at the stock yard, the Farm Drainage and the Game Laws. In 1898 he was again elected and took part in many discussions and measures calculated to improve the general conditions of the farmer. He vigorously supported the bill appropriating \$50,000 to send Mr. and Mrs. Murphy to Paris to promote the American flour and meal industry, and he has been chairman of the Public Property Committee of the county both in and out of the Legislature. He was also one of the Presidential Electors at the time of the last election of Grover Cleveland (1892), and was in the thick of the Logan-Morrison contest in 1885. Thorough disinterestedness and public spiritedness characterized his legislative service, and set a precedent for men who recognize their duty as active factors in the political world around them.

The marriage of Mr. Cleary and Helen Burke occurred at Ottawa, Ill., August 14, 1865, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Father Tuner. Mrs. Cleary is also a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, a daughter of Jeffery and Catherine (Boyle) Burke, natives of County Tipperary, who immigrated to the United States in 1852.

At Detroit, Mich., Mr. Burke had much to do with public works and was interested along the same line after moving to Sandwich, Ill., where his death occurred in 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Cleary have been born the following children: Katherine, who lives with her father; William P., a biographical record of whose life appears in another page of this volume, and who was killed in a street-car accident, August 2, 1907, leaving a wife, formerly Mary Savage, and four children—Marion Kathleen, Michael L., William P., Jr., and one who died in infancy; John, who is a prominent attorney of Kansas City, Mo., for many terms was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, and married Mollie O'Rourke; Frank, a farmer of Odell Township, who married Tena Halm and has two

children—Eugene and Leona; Alice, living at home; Michael Albert, Joseph, Nellie, Lillian, and Leo. Mr. Cleary's fine appreciation of the value of an education has led him to furnish the best available opportunities for his children, and one would travel far before coming in contact with so harmonious and thoroughly capable a household. The daughters have been trained in the arts of housewifery and are otherwise accomplished, and the sons are excellent business men and prominent members of the Knights of Columbus. The family since 1879 have occupied a beautiful rural residence, admirably furnished and affording every convenience for the development of hospitality and refinement.

A character study of Mr. Cleary reveals a man of bluff and kindly nature, having the Irishman's appreciation of human and irresistible smile. The sterner side of his nature often is uppermost, but in the contrasts thus displayed, one but recognizes the altogether lovable nature which makes the sons of Erin welcome in any land under the sun. It is not known that any one in need ever has appealed to this jovial man in vain, and certain it is, that all efforts toward the enlightenment and advancement of the community have found in him a wise and generous supporter. Aided by a most excellent wife, who is also a most devoted mother, he has shifted his position from humble to affluent circumstances, proving himself the master rather than the slave of conditions, the arbiter of a broad, tolerant and encouraging destiny.

In 1873 there were but a few Catholic families in the vicinity of Odell, Ill. Mr. Cleary, with the assistance of Messrs. Edward Collins, Frank Craven, Bernard Lyons, T. G. Lyons, and James Langan, called a meeting for the purpose of building a Catholic church. Bernard Lyons was elected president, Edward Collins secretary, and Michael Cleary collector and treasurer. They employed Mr. William Buchanan as contractor and builder and erected a church 40 by 80 ft., and paid for the same. When Bishop Spaulding was made Bishop of the diocese in 1877 he appointed as their pastor the Rev. Bernard Boylan, of Rhode Island. The succeeding pastors have been Rev. James Halpin, Rev. Louis Selva who built the convent at a cost of about \$12,000, and the present pastor, Rev. P. Griffy, who built the fine church and parochial residence at a cost of about \$50,000. There are now about two hundred and twenty-five Catholics in the parish.

CLEARY, William P.—In keeping with the uncertainty surrounding mankind's earthly sojourn, the building and sustaining of character, and the development of a high life purpose are not necessarily dependent upon length of days. It is given to some far-seeing toilers to early find their bearings, to choose wisely their place in the work of the world, and in comparatively brief time stamp their worth and helpfulness upon the gravest and most important affairs of the communities in which they live. To leave the world a broader and better place for our

having lived in it is, after all, the best criterion of existence, and such a consummation must ever prove an incalculable factor in the memory of those who tarry in the wake of the gone before. This inestimable satisfaction is left the family and friends of William P. Cleary, than whom the city of Odell or Pontiac has known no more ambitious, whole-souled or public spirited man, and whose seemingly untimely death, at two o'clock, Wednesday morning, August 7, 1907, at the age of thirty-nine years, is deplored in the business, political, social and ethical life of Livingston County.

Mr. Cleary gained his first ideas of life and work in Odell Township, where he was born on a farm, the oldest son of Hon. Michael Cleary, an early settler of that part of the State. Receiving the larger part of his book education in the public schools and at St. Viator's College, he was essentially one of those who learn most from observation, and he had the practical and workable ideals usually associated with that class of citizens. Fortunate in the possessing of an engaging and confidence inspiring personality, his first business venture, a drug store, operated in partnership with the late E. A. Hunter, was successful from the start, and continued an important local factor after the death of his partner, and the assumption of the entire business by himself. For years Mr. Cleary devoted himself unremittingly to his store, and not until four years before his death did he recognize the need of sharing the responsibility of its management with another partner. At this time he became associated with Harry J. Hare, and thereafter operated the concern under the firm name of Cleary and Hare. The new company developed ambitions in keeping with the sagacity and resource of its promoters, and soon after was established in Pontiac a similar store, over which Mr. Cleary exercised special supervision, making daily trips thither by the electric road, although still maintaining his home in Odell. In large measure he possessed the qualities of the born merchant, one of which is invariable tact and consideration. He made himself a necessary and dependable local factor, kept pace with the advance in medical and surgical advancement and the accessories pertaining thereto, and also evidenced his knowledge of the general needs of the community along those lines usually associated with drug supplies. His stores presented the advantage of order and cleanliness, his goods were well and attractively arranged, and so conscientiously were orders and requirements fulfilled that undiminished confidence rewarded his helpful and practical life purpose.

The wife of Mr. Cleary formerly was Mamie Savage, who survives him with his daughters, Marion and Catherine, and his two sons, Michael I. and W. P., Jr. Among the other near relatives left to mourn this popular young business man are his parents; his five brothers, John, of Kansas City, and Frank, Joseph, Bert and Leo. He has also four living sisters, Alice, Kate, Lillian and Nellie, of Odell. As became so public

spirited a man, Mr. Cleary took a commendable interest in local politics, and while averse to political honors, served as Village Trustee from 1904 to 1906. In religious belief he was a Roman Catholic, and a member of St. Paul's church, from which he was buried at nine o'clock, Friday, August 9, 1907. He was prominent and popular socially, a Past Grand Knight of Odell Council No. 895, Knights of Columbus, and was also identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

Mr. Cleary was fatally injured in an accident on the B. P. & J. road, on August 4, 1907, and at no time was much hope held out to his anxious family and friends by attending physicians. On August 9, he passed beyond the ken of those who knew and depended on him with the same courage and fortitude which had characterized his entire responsible life, leaving them well provided for financially, and what is still better, leaving a legacy of an honored name, an industrious and well ordered life, and of unflinching allegiance to the highest ideals of American citizenship. His name is written large upon the latter day history of the town he loved so well and served so faithfully, and where, by all that demonstrates personal worth, he promoted those things which tend to harmony, prosperity and all around well being.

CLINE, George W. (deceased), for thirty-three years a prominent farmer and leading citizen of Chatsworth Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born on a farm in Tazewell County, Ill., December 21, 1829. He was the last survivor of thirteen children composing the family of John and Elizabeth (Hill) Cline, pioneer settlers of Tazewell County, where they had moved from Ohio. Mr. Cline was reared to manhood on the home farm, and when twenty-one years old began farming in LaSalle County, continuing thus for five years and then returning to Tazewell County. There he was married on May 1, 1856, to America Fishburn, a native of Middletown, Pa., whose parents had settled in LaSalle County, when she was three years of age. The young couple lived two years in Tazewell County and the next eight years in LaSalle County. In 1864 they moved to Livingston County, locating first in Union Township, subsequently in Indian Grove Township and later in Chatsworth Township. While living in the latter locality, Mr. Cline bought the place on which he passed the remainder of his life, taking possession of the property in 1869. During the first years of his residence in the new home adversity confronted the family. Heavy indebtedness, and the excessive rains of 1869 ("the wet year") which reduced the crops to a minimum, proved a severe ordeal. But the energy and indomitable spirit of the subject of this sketch and the patience and persistent endeavors of his faithful wife enabled them to pass through it successfully, and each succeeding year added to their prosperity and comfort. At the time of his decease Mr. Cline was the owner of 320 acres

of land, containing improvements of the best kind.

The death of Mr. Cline occurred September 10, 1901, and his loss was deeply felt by a wide circle of acquaintances throughout Livingston County. He was a man of broad, practical information and took an earnest interest in public affairs, although his chief pleasure was found in the home circle, of which his worthy widow is still the greatly respected center. Their family consisted of eleven children, seven of whom were boys. Mary, the eldest child, died in 1871. Emma has always remained at home. Ida married James Martin and resides in Chenoa, Ill.—has two children, Dylinus and James Elden. Kate married Stephen Kent and resides in Kalispelle, Mont.—has four children, Raymond, Mabel, Verna and Harold. Charles and John are farming in Iowa, the former in Jasper County and the latter near Tioga, Mahaska County. George bought the farm adjoining Mrs. Cline's on the East, in Chatsworth Township. Eugene is operating the home farm. James is a farmer near Monticello, Ill. Harry is station agent of the Illinois Central Railroad, at Cropsey, Ill., and Frank is a farmer near Delphi, Ind.

Politically, Mr. Cline was a Prohibitionist, and has served on the School Board ever since he came to Livingston County; held the office of Supervisor two terms. While not a church member he was actively interested in Sunday-school work. In fraternal circles he was affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., being connected with Chatsworth Lodge, No. 358. The family have always attended the Methodist church.

CLOAT, Robert, a successful farmer of Section 28, Avoca Township, Livingston County, presents a remarkable case of constant persistence after a desired object, for, starting out for himself a mere child, he has worked steadily upward, and attained well-deserved success through energy, thrift and good management. He was born in Bloomington, Ill., May 5, 1862, a son of John Cloat, the latter a native of Germany who settled in Bloomington in 1850, and there remained until 1878, when he removed to Livingston County and bought eighty acres of land in Avoca Township, for which he paid \$30 per acre. This land he held and improved, finally selling it for \$90 an acre, but today it is worth \$200 per acre. After selling his farm John Cloat retired and bought property in Fairbury where he died May 4, 1903. His family consisted of the following: Bertha, who married William L. Binden a farmer of Avoca Township; Lucy married William Rockholder, a farmer south of Bloomington; William, died in Bloomington, leaving two sons—Roy and Lewis; John died at Lincoln, Ill., leaving two sons—John and Lewis; Ollie married John Halb; Harmon, a resident of Fairbury; Carrie (deceased), married Gravel Johnson. The mother of Robert Cloat was a Mrs. Rickley, prior to her marriage with John Cloat.

When Robert Cloat was twelve years old he broke his leg and, as soon as he could stand on



Henry Hummel & Family

it, he decided to earn his own living, so he went to a Mr. D. D. Vineys, a farmer living near Bloomington, and helped him gathering corn. When this work was finished, Mr. Vineys liking the bright, willing boy, offered him a home, which offer Robert accepted, and worked for him all winter. So well was the farmer pleased that, in the spring, he made the boy a present of a three-year-old colt, and engaged him to work for him at \$22 per month. For three years Robert remained with his kind friend, the second year receiving \$25 per month, at the same time Mr. Vineys caring for his colt. Mr. Cloat has never forgotten that it is to this man he is indebted for his start in life.

Remaining in Bloomington until 1881, Mr. Cloat then came to Livingston County to take charge of his father's property and operated the farm until 1890. He then went to Fairbury and began teaming, at the same time farming on rented land until 1908, when he rented 180 acres on Section 28, Avoca Township, and moved to that farm. He now has 110 acres in corn and 70 acres in oats. In addition to his farm, he has a team engaged in work in the city. Mr. Cloat has always been a believer in good stock, and has never had any other kind on his farms. His property is well kept up and he takes great pleasure in his work.

On June 14, 1886, Mr. Cloat was married to Mrs. Hattie DeVose, born in Brimfield, Ill., and who lost her father when a child. One of her sons was killed on the railroad, while another is a resident of Fairbury. Mrs. Cloat came to Livingston County in 1877 and had a small home of her own when she met Mr. Cloat. Mrs. Cloat is a Methodist, while Mr. Cloat is a Christian and contributes to both churches. In politics he is a Republican. While they have no children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Cloat are very generous and have given a number of young people a home, and when each one has left, a team, harness and wagon have been given as a start. Mr. Cloat has never forgotten the kindness of his boyhood friend, and has repaid it a hundred fold to others. He and his wife are kind-hearted, charitable people who have friends all over the State, and their pleasant home is always open to all who call upon its hospitality.

CLOVER, Amos W., one of the best known and most substantial farmers of Livingston County, Ill., formerly located in Round Grove Township, where he resided many years, enjoying the respect and confidence of all, but now living in retirement in Dwight. His birth occurred in Broughton Township, Livingston County, May 3, 1858, and he has the distinction of being the first white male child born in that township. He is a son of Philip and Arvilla (Currier) Clover, natives of Indiana and Pennsylvania, respectively, the father having been born in 1828. John Clover, the paternal grandfather, came with his two brothers from England to the United States about the beginning of the nineteenth century, first settled in Indiana and subsequent-

ly removing to Illinois, where the remainder of his life was spent. His wife died in Indiana. The grandparents on the maternal side, John and Anna Currier, came to Illinois from Pennsylvania at a very early period, locating in Livingston County, where the grandfather Currier passed his closing years. Grandmother Currier departed this life in Nebraska, at the age of ninety-three years. Philip Clover and Arvilla Currier were brought by their respective parents to Livingston County, Ill., where both grew to maturity, and where in course of time their marriage took place. After this event, the father followed farming for ten years, two miles west of the village of Campus. At the end of that period he changed his location to Round Grove Township, where he lived until his withdrawal from active pursuits and his removal to the town of Dwight, and there his death occurred on June 19, 1900. He was an active member of the Church of God, to which his widow also belongs. Their family consisted of six children, five of whom are still living. At the time of his decease, Philip Clover was the owner of 560 acres of land in Round Grove Township, all in one body. Amos W. Clover was reared to agricultural work, and his education was obtained in the common schools. When quite a young man he assumed the management of a part of the paternal farm, and on the death of his father, inherited a portion of the estate. Since then, besides operating his own share, he has had charge of his mother's interests. For six years, 1889 to 1895, he was engaged in the hardware business in Emington, Livingston County. His farming experience has been attended by profitable results, but on account of poor health he has retired and is now living in Dwight.

On February 18, 1885, Mr. Clover was united in marriage with Emma O. Leopold, who was born in Ford County, Ill., a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Wertz) Leopold, early settlers of that county. The parents of Mrs. Clover are living in Nebraska, where her father has been a hardware merchant at Sutton, for the last twenty years. Four children resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Clover, as follows: Lulu May, deceased; Clarence E., who was educated in the Dwight High School, and lives at home; and Edwin P. and Lloyd N., both of whom are deceased.

In politics, Mr. Clover is identified with the Democratic party. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F., belonging to the lodge at Reddick, Ill., while Mrs. Clover is a member of the Rebeccas. They are held in high esteem by a large number of friends.

COLBOURNE, John A., M. D.—The family represented by this well-known physician of Pontiac has long been identified with the history of England, where his father Benjamin, son of John Colbourne, always made his home and where he was allied with the nobility. The mother, Leah, daughter of John Parker, likewise remained in England until her death. The fam-

ily residence was at Cinderford, Gloucestershire, where August 8, 1862, occurred the birth of the gentleman whose name introduces this article. At the age of nineteen years he came to the United States and secured employment in Chicago, but two years later removed to Braidwood, where for two and one-half years he worked in the coal mines. Later he became interested in vocal music and, as a member of a quartette, traveled for fifteen months, principally in New York and Pennsylvania. On returning to Illinois he worked in coal mines at Braceville.

Desiring to acquire a more thorough education, in the fall of 1886, the young man went to Dixon, where he paid his own way through a scientific school, from which he was graduated in 1892. Shortly afterward he entered the medical department of the Northwestern University at Evanston, and took the regular course of lectures, graduating in 1894. Meanwhile he had worked as a guard at the Columbian Exposition from April to November of 1893, and thus had earned the money necessary for the completion of his education. After leaving the University he spent two months in Peoria and then came to Pontiac, where he has built up a large practice. During the year 1905 he erected Minerva Hospital, with eighteen private rooms, three wards for men and women, and also operating rooms equipped for such surgical work as might be brought to his care. In January, 1908, he disposed of this property but has continued his practice in Pontiac. Dr. Colbourne has also been financially successful. He owns nearly 400 acres of land in Livingston County, besides 800 acres in Indiana and other valuable property.

The marriage of Dr. Colbourne took place at Pontiac, April 16, 1895, uniting him with Miss Fannie E. Linscott, who was born on a farm seven miles south of Pontiac, a daughter of Squire and Minerva (Kingore) Linscott, natives of Ohio, who came to Illinois and settled in Livingston County early in the '50s. Two children comprise the family of Dr. and Mrs. Colbourne, namely: Squire Linscott, born in August, 1896, and John Anthony, born in November, 1897. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the Doctor officiates as steward. The Republican party has received his ballot ever since he became a citizen of the United States with the power of franchise. During a residence of three years at Ransom, La Salle County, Ill., he served as Chairman of the Board of Village Trustees. In fraternal relations he is connected with the American Home Circle, the White Cross, Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Pythias and Masons, in which latter he holds membership both in the Blue Lodge and in the Chapter. Deeply interested in all matters pertaining to materia medica, he has allied himself with organizations for the benefit of the same, including the Livingston County, the Illinois State, and the American Medical Associations, and he has further acted as Medical Examiner for various insurance societies.

COLEHOWER, Benjamin F., a prosperous grain dealer of Long Point, Livingston County, Ill., a man of abundant financial resources and one of the most prominent and influential citizens in the northwestern portion of the county, was born in Peoria County, Ill., September 22, 1854, a son of John H. and Elizabeth (Ramsay) Colehower, natives of Pennsylvania, where the father was born in Chester County, June 26, 1830, and the mother in Montgomery County, October 16, 1831. Conrad Colehower, the paternal grandfather, who was a German, by nativity, came to the United States in the earlier half of the last century, settling in Philadelphia, where his last days were spent. His wife, Rachael (Garner) Colehower, was born in that city and died there. The maternal grandfather, Thomas B. Ramsay, was also a Pennsylvanian by birth, as was his wife, Rebecca (Cornog) Ramsay. They moved in 1853, to Peoria County, Ill., and in 1867 to Livingston County, where both passed the remainder of their lives. John H. Colehower located in Peoria County, Ill., in 1852, and there followed farming until 1867, when he moved to Long Point Township, Livingston County, and there settled on another farm, owning at one time 320 acres of land. He and his wife had three sons and three daughters, and of these two sons and one daughter are deceased.

In politics, John H. was a Democrat, and held a number of township offices in succession. Fraternally, he was affiliated with the I. O. O. F. He died February 2, 1906, and his wife died December 24, 1907. Benjamin F. Colehower grew up on the home farm, fully utilizing the advantages of the common school. At the age of sixteen years he began teaching school, and followed this occupation and farming until he became a merchant at Long Point. For twenty-one years he conducted a general store and, in 1894, embarked in the grain trade, in which he has been very successful. He owns the elevator which he operates and has other property of considerable value, including a fine residence, a store-building and the town hall. He organized the State Bank of Long Point, of which he was cashier for three years, and is at present one of the directors.

On April 6, 1882, Mr. Colehower was married to Jennie Phillips, a native of Marshall County, Ill., and a daughter of James B. and Sarah (Clifford) Phillips. The father of Mrs. Colehower was an early settler of Marshall County, from which he moved to Livingston County. In 1882 he went to Nebraska, and there passed the closing years of his life. To Mr. and Mrs. Colehower has been born two children—Blanche and Wayne.

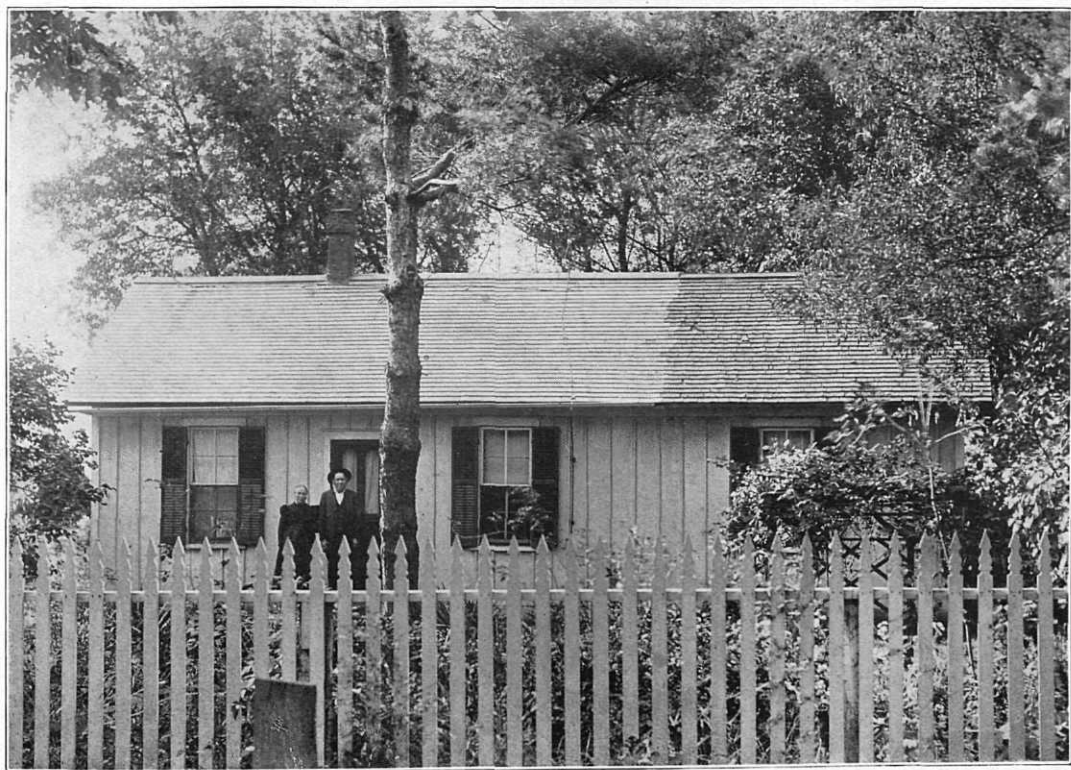
Politically, Mr. Colehower is a Democrat, and an evidence of his remarkable popularity and of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen, is the fact that he has served as Supervisor for eighteen years, although the Township is Republican by a decisive majority. He is still the incumbent in that office, and has also held the offices of Town Clerk and Collector. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the A.



MRS. HENRY GERBIG



HENRY GERBIG



MR. AND MRS. ANTON HUMMEL AND RESIDENCE

F & A. M., Long Point Lodge, No. 552; Rutland Chapter, No. 112, R. A. M.; Streator Council No. 73; Streator Commandery, No. 70 K. T.; Oriental Consistory, of Chicago; and Medinah Temple. He is also identified with the M. W. A. and the B. P. O. E.

COLEMAN, John.—The typical farm home of Livingston County reflects the prosperity of the fertile prairies of Illinois. That real prosperity exists is apparent from the fact that in many of the counties of this State, there are as many banks as postoffices. Farming as a business, and not merely for a living, is the cry of the scientific farmer of to-day, who works as hard as his grandfather did, but in a different way. Scientific farming and stockraising have opened up new fields to the intelligent agriculturist and made him a man of more than ordinary importance. All over the State are to be found immense farms where a specialty is made of the breeding and raising of blooded stock, and perhaps none is better known than Sunny Side Stock Farm, owned by John Coleman of Section 9, Long Point Township, Livingston County. He was born on the east end of same section, December 19, 1860, a son of Stephen and Emma (Fowler) Coleman.

When only eleven years old John Coleman began to help on the farm, alternating his duties there with attending the district school, and as he was an apt scholar he soon became a valuable adjunct to the farm, but preferred to assist in tending the stock. His father had the first Percheron stallion in the township, and hearing so much in his boyhood about the value of good blooded horses, John Coleman became a lover of stock and resolved that, when he had a farm of his own, he would devote it to stock. He remained with his father until he was twenty-one, and then taking sixty acres for his work, beginning with the spring of 1882, he operated his father's farm of 174 acres, as well as looked after his own. When, in the fall of 1885, he married, he and his bride cut the corn, and there on one of his corn fields, a little home was built for them, 16x24 feet, they scarcely foresaw the present handsome farm with its comfortable buildings.

Mr. Coleman was married September 24, 1885, to Lucretia Hakes. They have added to their bridal home considerably, and now have an eight-room house, fully supplied with all modern improvements. Their yard that once was a field of corn stubble, is ornamented with shrubs and trees. The original farm has been increased until it embraces 240 acres, there being 120 acres on each side of the road. Every part is fertile and all of it had to be tilled. True to the resolution formed in boyhood, Mr. Coleman began, as soon as he owned land of his own, to breed Percheron horses, purchasing his first horse from the M. C. Hodson Horse Company of Ottawa, Ill., and this horse he kept five years. It was known as "Benjamin H," and was justly celebrated, but he sold it and bought "Senator" of Ed Hodson, one of the brilliant breed-horses, paying \$400 therefor. The animal was two years old

when bought by Mr. Coleman, who kept him for five years, finally selling him for \$1,000 cash. In December, 1905, Mr. Coleman bought a fine Percheron horse, of the Trueman Bros., of Bushnell, Ill., paying for him at the age of two years, \$1,500. His weight was 2,100 pounds, and he was imported direct from France by Trueman Bros. in July, 1905. Mr. Coleman has twelve head of brood mares on the farm, all Registered of the Percheron breed. He is justly regarded as one of the progressive young farmers and stock-raisers of Livingston County, and he has been one of the very successful horsemen of the State. His horses always bring the best prices and his word regarding a horse is regarded as law. With regard to cattle, Mr. Coleman prefers the Jersey, and all of his animals in this line are pure bred stock. Mr. Coleman believes in good, steady prices at all times, and not occasional fancy ones. He thinks there is more money and justice for the seller and buyer in trying to make all horses good, than in devoting exceptional attention to a certain one and neglecting the others. For this reason his horses and stock are known to be uniformly good, and his prices are recognized as very reasonable considering the quality of stock.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have one daughter, Ida, born August 17, 1890, a most charming young lady, who has been carefully educated and given exceptional advantages in both instrumental and vocal music. She is greatly interested in the home and horses, and knows them all by name. She is the very light of her father's eyes and a companion. Mrs. Coleman's mother makes her home with them, and is a delightful old lady of seventy-eight. She was one of the pioneers of Livingston County, and can tell entertainingly of the many experiences they all had in those thrilling days when Indians were the nearest neighbors and wild game much more frequently on the table than beef or pork. Her husband died about 1886. Mrs. Coleman, with her mother and daughter, Miss Ida, are active workers in the Methodist Church, towards which Mr. Coleman contributes liberally. In politics he is a Democrat, but he is liberal in his views, believing that each man should be allowed to vote as he believes. Mr. Coleman has always been interested in educational matters, which illustrates an admirable phase of his public spirit, as does his interest in the welfare of his daughter, as well as his activity in promoting the prosperity of the community in general.

COLEMAN, Stephen (deceased).—A man who had no personal enemies, whose rare force of character and unlimited energy brought him prosperity, who left behind him a record of which all his loved ones may well feel proud. Stephen Coleman is kindly remembered, not only by his family but by the many with whom in life he had social and business relations. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, September 10, 1831, and on November 6, 1853, he married Emma Fowler, born in Putnam County, N. Y., May 28, 1832. They had ten children, seven

of whom are still living. Mary L. married John Halsted; Trumbull N.; George A. is a farmer of Long Point Township; Sarah married George Raub of Jackson, Minn.; John, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Lydia married Frank Ellis, a farmer of Long Point Township; Laura married Thomas Compton, a farmer of Long Point Township; Charles, of Perry, Iowa.

Stephen Coleman remained in Ohio until 1833, when he came with his parents to Illinois and settled in Bureau County, but in 1856 moved from there to Section 9, Long Point Township, Livingston County. He was elected to various offices on the Democratic ticket, and always gave it his strong support. When Mr. Coleman came to Long Point Township he was a poor man, but having energy, and not being afraid of hard work and knowing how to economize, he in time placed his farm of 179 acres under a high state of cultivation and began to breed cattle. He was the first to bring the Percheron horses to the county. He was a good farmer and horseman, and is remembered for his excellent judgment in both lines. His death occurred in March, 1900, his wife having died in 1882. The latter was a devout member of the Christian church, and he gave liberally towards its support. His long life was well spent; he filled his place well, and all who knew him stood with bared heads when they heard of his demise, knowing that there had passed away as true a man as ever lived.

COOK, John P., undertaker, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Undertaking, formerly a business crudely conceived, ill-organized and unethetically prosecuted, often as a side line by untrained men who never should have had anything to do with it, has during the last half-century been developed into a veritable science, demanding the investment of large capital, careful study of all its details and requirements and peculiar social and business qualifications. Formerly conducted in a hit or miss way that sometimes rendered it absolutely shocking, it has been gradually brought up to a high plane in which tact and alert human sympathy are as necessary as the expert knowledge by which they must be accompanied if the undertaker is to achieve a worthy success. For some years Mr. Cook was engaged in the furniture trade in connection with the undertaking business, but sold out the former about the beginning of the year 1909, and is now devoting his attention to undertaking and picture frame work.

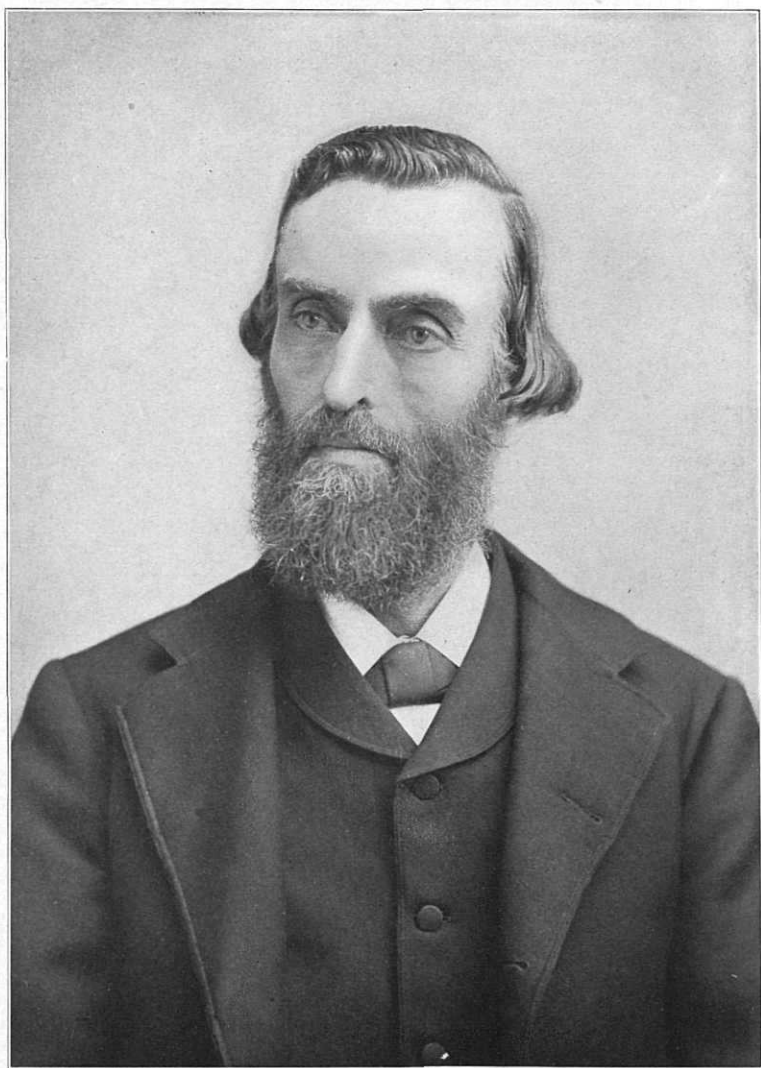
John P. Cook was born in Richmond, Ind., August 3, 1859, a son of James and Lucinda (Potter) Cook. His father was a native of Virginia, while his mother was born in New Jersey. James Cook who was a farmer followed that business in Indiana until April 25, 1870, when he sold his property in Richmond in order to remove to Livingston County, Ill. He bought 320 acres adjoining the then small village of Fairbury, where he improved a farm which was known as

one of the finest in the township of Indiana Grove. While raising general crops, he became a leading breeder of Poland-China hogs. So famous became his products in the last mentioned line that people came long distances to buy his stock. He was not only a successful farmer but an able man of affairs in a broad sense, notably public-spirited and useful to the community in many ways. Politically, he was a Republican, fully believing in the principles of his party as they were promulgated by Abraham Lincoln and advocated by his successors. To public education he was a most generous friend. His Christian character was above question, his charities were many and were based on the fundamental principles of concealing from the left hand all knowledge of the good deeds of the right. He and his wife were active members of the Baptist church. His busy and beneficent life was terminated May 7, 1902. His widow, whose death occurred July 18, 1908, at the age of seventy-seven years, was a bright and cheerful lady whose friends were many and who had a pleasant home with her daughter until her demise.

To James and Lucinda (Potter) Cook children were born of whom some account will here be included. T. O. Cook, born March 17, 1851, at Williamsburg, Ind., is a resident of Fairbury. Ella Cook married Edward A. Sciberd of Colorado Springs, Colo., and has three sons named Harry, Ralph and Robin. Flora Cook became the wife of Judge G. W. Patton, of Pontiac. Their daughter Marie is the wife of Lieutenant Ross, U. S. A., now stationed at Washington, D. C. John P. Cook, of whom particulars will be given further on, was the next in order of birth. Rose Cook is the wife of T. S. O. McDowell, President of the First National Bank of Fairbury, Ill. Harry Cook married Lydia Wade, who died December 3, 1903, leaving daughters named Hazel and Lucile, residing now in Fairbury, Ill.

John P. Cook attended the public schools near his birthplace in Indiana until 1870, when his father brought his family to Livingston County. The boy was then eleven years old, continuing his education at a school near his new home. He began as soon as he was old enough, to help his father on the farm, and well and faithfully did he perform such duties as were entrusted to him. In 1883 he accompanied his father to the Osage Agency, in Indian Territory, whither they went to buy cattle on a large ranch. They remained there about a year, consummating their deal most successfully.

Soon after his return to Fairbury, John P. Cook engaged in the hardware and implement business. In 1888 the firm of Cook Brothers was organized and furniture and undertaking departments were added to the enterprise. In 1893 the firm was dissolved, T. O. Cook continuing the hardware business, and John P. Cook the furniture and undertaking business. As already stated he has retired from the furniture branch of the business, and is now devoting his time to the undertaking business and picture frame work. He has made a careful study of undertaking and



E. A. Jackson

has received instruction in embalming under the most prominent demonstrators in the State, and holds a diploma from the State Board of Embalmers, licensing him as an embalmer and undertaker. His establishment includes all the latest devices for taking care of the dead and his stock of furniture is large and comprehensive. His manner of doing business has commended him to public favor and his patronage extends throughout all Fairbury's tributary territory.

Mr. Cook married Miss Vena Merit, February 22, 1883. Mrs. Cook, who is a daughter of the Rev. C. D. Merit of the Baptist Church, was born in Washburn, Ill., May 9, 1857. She has borne her husband three children. Their daughter, Fern L., born May 25, 1885, is a graduate of the Cincinnati (Ohio) Conservatory of Music of Cincinnati, and is not only a finished but a most enthusiastic musician. D. Carlos Cook, born June 29, 1888, was graduated from the Business College at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, also received a musical education in Chicago and is a member of the Cedar Rapids Orchestra. Margarette L., born May 25, 1894, is a student in the Fairbury High School. Mr. and Mrs. Cook and their family are active members of the First Baptist Church, of the choir of which Mr. and Mrs. Cook were members for many years.

Politically, Mr. Cook is a Republican. While righteously attending to his duties as a citizen, he is absolutely without desire for public office. He is a member of the Illinois Undertakers' Society, and of the Yeomen of America and a Knight of Pythias. The family is notably a musical one, but while their musical talents have made them welcome everywhere, they have other well recognized claims to social consideration.

COOPER, Jeremiah F., retired farmer, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. This venerable citizen has the distinction of having lived in Livingston County longer than any other of its residents, and is certainly entitled to all the honor due to the pioneer. It would be hard to overestimate the service to society that has been performed by such men as Mr. Cooper. They bore hardships and suffering amid inhospitable environments, that those who were to come after them might have lives of comparative ease and comfort. Such may not have been their chief motives, but the results of their hard work and self-denial are everywhere evidenced.

Jeremiah F. Cooper was born in Overton County, Tenn., October 29, 1832, a son of James and Susannah (Travis) Cooper, also natives of Tennessee. In 1834, when he was about two years old, his parents, with quite a number of others, journeyed from Tennessee to Illinois, with the intention of settling in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County. Martin Darnell, the first settler in the county, had come in 1836, only four years before, and had found an Indian town. When the Coopers came there were only four families at the Grove. Of the people who came in their party, numbering about fifty, all settled at the Grove or on Belle Prairie. At this

time it is believed that only six of them are living—four brothers named Moore and Jeremiah F. Cooper and his twin brother. The fact that these survivors belonged to only two families would indicate the unusual longevity of their stock.

James and Susannah (Travis) Cooper lived out their lives and died on Belle Prairie. They had four sons and three daughters; the following details concerning whom will be of interest in this connection. Margaret Cooper, born on Belle Prairie, November 27, 1834, soon after her parents come to the county, was the first white child born in what is now Belle Prairie Township. Jane Cooper was the oldest of the family. James Madison Cooper, Jeremiah F. Cooper's twin brother, is a farmer in Hickory County, Mo. Rachel Cooper, widow of Thomas Moore, lives at Seattle, Wash. William Cooper moved to Missouri and died there. Margaret died at Wichita, Kan., in 1901. John Cooper died in Belle Prairie Township. James Cooper and his wife became Christians early in life, and united with the first Christian Church organized at Indian Grove. Mr. Cooper was a mechanic and farmer, and for some years bore the reputation of being the best hand with the broad axe in the county. He made many chairs and spinning wheels and looms, which he was able to dispose of to advantage. Many chairs of his make are yet in use. In politics he was a Democrat. He died in 1870 aged sixty-one years, after witnessing many changes in Central Illinois.

The first school which Jeremiah F. Cooper attended was taught in a log cabin with a big fireplace, puncheon floor, and hewed board seats. For twenty-two years he worked on the farm, clearing and cultivating land, which when he first beheld it had never been scratched with the plow. He married Miss Louise Davis, January 19, 1854, a daughter of Jacob Davis, who in 1851 came to Illinois from Sullivan County, Ind., where she was born, and settled in Indian Grove Township. Mr. Cooper lived in Belle Prairie Township until 1864, then sold his home there and bought 100 acres of partially improved land in Indian Grove Township. There was on it a log cabin which he occupied until he could erect a better domicile. There he remained until March 2, 1907, soon after which date he removed to Fairbury.

Jeremiah F. and Louise (Davis) Cooper had ten children, nine of whom are living. Martin lives at Des Moines, Iowa. Viola, widow of Henry Crutchfield, is living at Fairbury. Anna is Mrs. Frank Barnes of Indian Grove Township. Susan married Martin Barnes of Belle Prairie Township. Ada, widow of Richard Travis, lives at Fairbury. Bert is a farmer in Belle Prairie Township. Jacob lives in Oklahoma. Lena is a member of her father's household. Fred is operating the home farm in Indian Grove Township. Louisa died in March, 1905. The mother of these children died January 17, 1906. Mr. Cooper married Mrs. Jennie Travis, October 30, 1907.

Mr. Cooper's public spirit is well known to all

citizens of Fairbury and vicinity. He has been especially interested in public education, and was for thirty years a school director in the district which included his home. During all his active years he was influential in a local way in political affairs. After the organization of the Republican party, he supported its measures quite consistently for many years, reserving his right to vote independently if he chose. During recent years his interest in the temperance movement has led him to act with the Prohibition party. On this question he takes a radical stand, protesting that no man should be licensed to sell that which injures his fellow man. He has been almost a lifelong member of the Christian church. For seventy-four years he has lived in this community and, as boy and man, he has witnessed the development of a swampy wilderness to a part of the richest corn belt in America. He has seen towns and villages spring up as if by magic, and old things pass away before the resistless march of progress. He is honored as a pioneer and as a citizen, and has reason to look back upon an eventful life with a gratification that is born of well doing.

COOPER, John, a sturdy farmer of remarkable force of character and an upright and worthy man, brought up to hard work and strict discipline that developed his character and made him a strong man mentally and physically, as well as morally, was born in Chester County, Pa., August 18, 1830, a son of Hiram K. and Susanna T. (Paxson) Cooper. The parents were born before the division in the Quaker faith, and after it came they went with the branch known as "Hicksite" and John Cooper, born into that faith, has held to it all his life, the excellent traits of that body becoming part of his nature. According to the belief of the Hicksite Quakers, the children of those belonging to that faith, have a birthright in it. The faith is a simple one—kindly toleration, a seclusion from the pomps and vanities of the world-minded, a plainness in dress and manner of speech being some of the leading characteristics. In any neighborhood where a Hicksite Quaker settled, his word was literally accepted as good as his written bond. He was often called upon to settle estates and be guardian for orphans, for the sterling honesty and uprightness of a Quaker is never disputed. What the Quakers call vain titles are not used, and if the first name is not employed, the word "Friend" is placed before the last one. In the younger generation some of these rules have been relaxed, but when John Cooper learned the gentle lessons of his faith from his parents, he never thought of calling any one other than above indicated, no matter what his position in the church or the world.

Four children were born to Hiram K. Cooper and wife: John; Phoebe J., who married William Jefferis, and they reside in Chester County, Pa.; Susanna, still living on the old Chester County homestead; and Hiram K., the younger,

a farmer in Chester County, near the Lincoln Institute. The father, who was a powerfully built man, was a teamster and blacksmith, and he and his wife were in strong sympathy with the "Underground Railroad" and helped personally many fugitive slaves to escape. He was a man with strong conviction of right and wrong, had absolutely no fear of danger, and few men of his day were so universally respected as he. His death occurred in September, 1862, while his wife survived until November of the following year.

John Cooper was reared on the Chester County farm, and educated in the district and select schools of his neighborhood, remaining with his parents until twenty-seven years old. At that time he decided to move west to improve his financial condition, and in 1857 came to La Salle County, Ill., settling near Wenona, where he had an uncle named Yarnell Cooper. Later he secured railroad land from the Illinois Central, buying 160 acres in Long Point Township at \$15.25 per acre. This land was raw prairie. Having exhausted his resources paying for his land, John Cooper worked for other farmers by the month, and that fall returned to his old home. The following year on March 18, he married Sarah J. Oldham, born in 1836, in Principio, Cecil County, Md., a daughter of Absalom and Henrietta (White) Oldham. He was a slaveholder, but when the question became such a burning question, he freed his slaves and did all he could to better their condition. In religious faith the Oldhams were Methodists.

On April 1, 1858, John Cooper and his young wife set out for the new home, and that summer boarded with a family connection, but in the fall they went to Peru and gave an order for a house 14x16, a story-and-a-half in height. The carpenter went to work, made the frame, the windows and the sash and shipped them to Wenona. This material was then hauled to the farm and in six days the house was erected. Next came the plastering, and the home was then ready for occupancy, and the young couple began their pioneer life on the home of wild land. John Cooper went ahead, making each day count in making his improvements, while his faithful wife labored equally hard at her work, and thus they continued until 1862, when, overcome by the excitement, John Cooper enlisted at Rutland, La Salle County, Ill., in Company I, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served during the war. The regiment was ordered to Ottawa, was there organized and then sent to Louisville, Ky., and was in that city when Jeff C. Davis killed Gen. Nelson, who was in command of the troops, the killing occurring at the Galt House. The regiment remained at Louisville a month, then went on to Franklin, Ky., and there spend four weeks drilling and going on raids after John Morgan. The next change was made to Camp Hartsville, Tenn., where the regiment did guard duty. The main army had gone south, while the One Hundred and Fourth remained in camp. While they were

there an old man came into the camp selling wood. John Cooper went up to see him, admired his fine team, but did not know until afterwards that it was John Morgan himself, who a couple of days later was in command of 15,000 men. The One Hundred and Fourth had the honor of capturing Morgan, and it was their first real fight. This was accomplished by only a portion of the regiment, for the rest of them had gone to Gallatin, Tenn., for rations. Company K. lost ten men, and the prisoners were taken to Murrefreesboro, and paroled by Gen. Breckenridge and sent to Nashville. John Cooper next was sent to Nashville, Tenn., with 500 others, and from there to Columbus, Ohio. The regiment was reorganized at Columbus and sent to Chicago, thence to Nashville and were in time to join on the march to Chickamauga. They joined in the fight there. When General Sherman arrived with his men, the One Hundred and Fourth participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge and was with Sherman on his Atlanta Expedition. For 122 days the men were under fire. General Sherman took three Corps, the Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Seventeenth, twenty-five miles south of Atlanta, and the Twentieth corps was left in possession and held the enemy, and Atlanta was captured. The men went on to Altoona Hills, where Hood endeavored to capture the Union supplies. This plan being discovered, Gen. Corse rescued his men, and then originated the song, "Hold the Fort, for I am Coming." These were the words that were wig-wagged by General Sherman to General Corse, and which are now so much used in religious meetings. The One Hundred and Fourth dropped back to Atlanta, orders were given to forage, and the army moved on to the sea, and on this raid originated the song, "Marching Through Georgia." The army heard of Lee's surrender when they were within three days of Richmond. Arriving at Richmond, they were sent on to Washington and took part in the Grand Review there. The regiment was ordered to Chicago, and there Mr. Cooper received his honorable discharge.

After three years of hard fighting John Cooper once more reached his little home and took up the work of farming. That following fall he had a fine crop of corn, his yield being about 1,500 bushels, which sold for \$1.02½ per bushel, which almost finished paying for his land. During his three years' service Mr. Cooper never was in a hospital except as a visitor, and never was wounded, although once, when a piece of shell struck his canteen strap and as the water leaked out, he thought he could feel the blood trickling down his side. He still regards this as one of the best jokes on himself and tells, with quiet mirth, what must have been at the time a startling experience.

John Cooper and his wife had children as follows: Sue Etta, who was born February 9, 1859, married John Clegg, May 21, 1901, and lived in La Salle County; Herman A., born December 5, 1860, is a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.; Wilmot O., born June 11, 1862, married Emma

Massey, December 17, 1896, and resides near Salem, Oregon; Laura E., born April 26, 1866, married Luther Crawford, and died March 14, 1905; Mary Ada, born April 2, 1868, married Rev. A. W. Lowther, a resident of Dwight, Ill.; Wayne P., born October 1, 1869, married Hattie Clegg on February 25, 1905; Annie Y., born June 26, 1871, married William Bradish, of Flandreau, S. D.; Howard G., born November 6, 1873, served in the Philippines, married Ethel Beatty November 11, 1900, and is a farmer in La Salle County, Ill.; Clara B., born August 13, 1875, at home since the death of her mother, which took place November 1, 1904. The youngest daughter then cheerfully abandoned her school teaching and put aside her personal plans to care for her father. The mother had been reared a Presbyterian, but, as there was no church of that faith at Long Point, she joined the Methodists. She was an unselfish, noble woman and at the time of her death was universally mourned. She was a neighborhood blessing, always caring for the sick and afflicted, and her memory will long be cherished.

John Cooper has been a Republican since the formation of that party, and has served as School Director and School Trustee for many years. All measures looking toward the betterment of the community have always received his hearty approval, and his name is connected with all that is best and good in the county. The beautiful family home is surrounded by fruit, shade and ornamental trees planted by John Cooper and his wife, and here the family and friends are always welcome with that kind and genuine hospitality for which he has always been noted. During 1908 the Paxson family held a very interesting re-union in Pennsylvania, to celebrate the location of the family in that State in 1788. Mr. Cooper, his daughters, Miss Clara and Mrs. Ada Lowther, and her son John attended this re-union.

CORBETT, John C., a prosperous, energetic business man, grain, lumber and coal dealer, in Chatsworth, Ill., and Vice-President of the Commercial National Bank of Chatsworth, and prominent in connection with the public affairs of Chatsworth Township and Livingston County, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., March 9, 1865. Ten years before that date his father, Thomas Corbett, a blacksmith by trade, had come to the United States from County Tipperary, Ireland, following his trade in Troy, N. Y., until the spring of 1865, when he moved to Tazewell County, Ill., where he engaged in farming until the spring of 1869, known to many as the wet year. He then removed to a farm in Sullivan Township, Livingston County, which he still owns, but in 1891 took up his residence in the village of Chatsworth, which is his present home. The marriage of Thomas Corbett took place in Troy, N. Y., where Ellen Kane became his wife, and to this union eight children were born, four sons and four daughters; one son and two daughters dying in infancy. Those having reached ma-

turity are as follows: Julia, who lives with her parents, having been for several years a school teacher; John C., Hugh E., a lawyer of Gary, Ind.; Minnie, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; and James Ambrose, who is Vice-President of the Citizens' National Bank, in Decatur, Ill.

John C. Corbett lived on the farm until he reached the age of twenty-one years, receiving his education in the district schools, the Pontiac High School, and the Valparaiso (Ind.) Normal School. Having completed the Commercial Teachers' and Scientific courses, he turned his attention to teaching, being engaged for ten years with great success in the schools of Livingston County, but later giving his attention to the hardware and agricultural implement trade at Emington, Ill., until October, 1900, when he succeeded Cowen Brothers, of Chatsworth, in the grain, lumber and coal business. He has also been associated with the Commercial National Bank of Chatsworth, Ill., since its organization, serving as its Vice-President. On August 14, 1895, John C. Corbett was married to Jennie Lawless, a daughter of Patrick Lawless, of Livingston County. Mrs. Corbett received her education in a convent. Two children have been born to this union, namely: Zita and Thomas. Mr. Corbett and his excellent wife are Catholics in religious faith, belonging to the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul. Mr. Corbett is a member of the Knights of Columbus and Past Grand Knight of Chatsworth Council No. 730.

Politically, John C. Corbett is a Democrat, but without regard to party lines his fellow citizens have honored him with various positions of trust and honor; being elected to the office of Mayor of Chatsworth, Ill., for two terms, and is now serving his third term as Supervisor of Chatsworth Township. He is a member of the important committees on the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Corbett is possessed of those sterling traits of character which make him a valuable citizen, has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his community and has been closely identified with all enterprises looking to the betterment of local affairs. He is progressive and liberal in all his views and joins heartily in all enterprises tending to advance the interests of his fellow townsmen and the community at large in which he lives. Upright and honorable in all his dealings, he has always been true to the trust imposed upon him, and has won the hearty good-will and esteem of all who know him.

CORKHILL, Frank S.—In naming the leading stock-raisers of Central Illinois, prominent mention should be made of Frank S. Corkhill, whose 200-acre property in Livingston County, situated two miles west and two and three-fourths miles south of Fairbury, has been the breeding place of some of the finest stock ever raised in the State. Mr. Corkhill was born in Galva, Henry County, Ill., September 22, 1859, son of William and Margaret (Cribbin) Corkhill, natives of the Isle of Man. In his native place William Cork-

hill served a seven-years apprenticeship at the trade of a ship-carpenter, for which labor he received no monetary compensation, but at the end of that time he was considered one of the most skilled in his trade in his native land. Leaving the place of his birth he traveled to Cleveland, Ohio, where he followed carpentering as a contractor and builder, but after a short time came to Peoria, Ill., where for seven years he worked as an engraver in the car shops. His sons all desired to follow the trade of their father, but he, seeing the advantages of agricultural pursuits over a trade, rented land for them in Henry County, of which they were put in charge. One property of 160 acres in McLean County, which the father purchased for \$25 an acre, is now valued at \$200 an acre, and cannot be purchased for that price. The farsightedness of this shrewd business man has been proved by the careers of his sons, all of whom have become prominent and wealthy agriculturists. William Corkhill died in 1870, while his widow survives him, at the ripe age of eighty-seven years, making her home with a son at Upland, Cal. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Corkhill, namely: William, who was murdered in Colorado for his money, about 1882; Thomas, who died on the home farm in McLean County, Ill.; Henry of Upland, Cal.; Charles, a fruit-grower of Ontario, Cal.; Frank S.; and Lydia, deceased, who was the wife of Thomas Kewley, a farmer near Wing, Livingston County.

Frank S. Corkhill began his school days at Galva, and after the death of his father, when he was about twelve years old, he went to work on a farm for \$13 per month, working thus until 1878. At this time he was stricken with the gold fever and, as a consequence, went to Leadville, Col., entering the employ of Barlow & Sanderson, for whom he worked in capacity of guard of the stock. Later he drove the stage between Canon City and Leadville, and subsequently worked for a year in the "Little Boy" and other well-known mines of the early days. He also prospected to some extent on his own account and located some low grades, which are now the Falls Lode, which has developed into an extensive producing mine. In 1881 Mr. Corkhill accepted a mail contract from Alpine, Col. to Aspen, that State, a distance of eighty miles, for which he received \$250 per month, but finding that the original contractor was receiving \$800 monthly for his share, the latter having stated in the Government contract that the distance was 800 miles instead of eighty, Mr. Corkhill and other sub-contractors put in bids for contracts for the right distance which enabled the Government to discover the frauds then existing.

Returning to McLean County in 1883, Mr. Corkhill resumed farming, but in 1884 removed to Ford County and rented a farm of his brother near Piper City, which he operated until 1888, then again returning to McLean County. Renting 320 acres of land he continued there until 1898, when, having been successful in his operations, he purchased 120 acres in section 19, In-



R. M. Shaw

dian Grove Township, McLean County, establishing the famous South View Stock Farm, which was soon to become known all over the State. No improvements, however, had been made on this land when Mr. Corkhill came here, and the large, substantial buildings, the tiling, cementing, fencing and other innovations have been the result of his constant, untiring, conscientious efforts. For the first fourteen years he engaged in raising thoroughbred Aberdeen and Angus cattle, and so successful was he in this line that his stock were invariably the winners of prizes at whatever fairs or stock shows they were exhibited. In 1904, in Chicago, Mr. Corkhill disposed of his stock, and began to give his entire attention to the breeding of Poland-China hogs, which he had formerly bred in connection with his cattle, but, although very successful in this line, decided to again take up cattle-raising and he is now one of the largest feeders and shippers in this part of the State. To his original 120 acres of land he added another eighty acres, and many have expressed the opinion that his magnificent property is one of the finest in Central Illinois.

On April 8, 1884, Mr. Corkhill was married to Clara Pate, who was born June 3, 1861, in Yates Township, McLean County, Ill., daughter of John and Mary Ann (Hiltbruner) Pate, the former of whom was born in England in 1806, and died in March, 1892. The latter still survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Corkhill. Of the fourteen children of Mr. and Mrs. Pate, the following survive: Isaiah, of McCook, Neb.; John, of Andale, Kan.; Jacob, of Dorchester, Neb.; Charles, of Sunshine, Colo.; Lewis, of Shelbyville, Ill.; William, of Pontiac, Ill.; Harvey, of Mahton, Washington; Ella, the wife of S. P. Morris, a farmer near Forrest, Ill.; and Mrs. Corkhill.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Corkhill are: Ella F., born September 11, 1885, a graduate of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois, class of 1906, and has for some time been a very successful teacher of music; Lulu, born July 29, 1888, married February 10, 1906, R. R. Martin, a farmer of Avoca Township; Mintia Pearl, born June 18, 1892, has shown rare promise of becoming a gifted artist; William H., born June 11, 1894; and Emma Myrtle, born March 7, 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. Corkhill have always been promoters of the cause of education, and have given their children advantages that will fit them for responsible positions in life. A Republican in politics, Mr. Corkhill filled various positions in Yates Township, but since coming to this county has steadfastly refused to fill office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his extensive business interests, although keeping himself well posted on current topics, and taking a deep interest in national affairs. Both he and Mrs. Corkhill, as well as their children, are members of the Evangelical Church of Yates Township, McLean County, and give liberally of their means towards its support. Mr. Corkhill's

only social connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Fairbury, Ill.

CORNELL, Walter.—In that struggle in which man pitted himself against the primeval forest, and pioneer life was full of the tragedy of existence, there were many who left a lasting impress upon the history of Illinois, and among them Walter Cornell is deserving of special mention. Born in Newport, R. I., April 3, 1811, the son of Walter and Lydia (Hadwin) Cornell, also natives of Rhode Island, and upright Christian people, who trained their son in principles of right living and taught him the faith of the Society of Friends—for they were Quakers—he had a good start.

Until he was about twenty-two the life of Walter Cornell was associated with his birthplace, Newport, where he attended the common schools, and eagerly made the best of opportunities offered him. As he grew older he decided to press westward to the then new State of Illinois, whither he came in 1838 by way of the lakes, landing at Chicago which was then not much more than a prosperous trading post. His first work was on the Illinois and Michigan Canal as engineer, but he remained in that position for less than a year, as he had started out with the intention of embarking in an agricultural life, and in that same year purchased a quarter section of land on Section 11, Amity Township, Livingston County, which he made his home during the remainder of his life. His efforts were devoted to farming and stock-raising, and he was eminently successful. Keenly alive to the best interests of his home community, he established the first Sunday School in Livingston County. His public-spirit was such that he was always interested in local affairs, and that his efforts were appreciated is shown by the fact that he served as County Treasurer for two terms, County Assessor for three terms, and for one term was County Commissioner, being elected on the Republican ticket.

The first marriage of Mr. Cornell occurred in 1834 to Sarah E. Eldred, who was a native of South Kingston, R. I., born in 1813. Three children were born of this marriage, namely: Henry M. of Cornell, Ill., born September 4, 1836; Walter Channing, who died soon after his birth in 1843, and Walter B., a stockdealer in Great Bend, Kan., who was born May 5, 1850. On March 28, 1852, Mr. Cornell married Louisa Jones, who was born in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, August 24, 1825, the daughter of Justus and Sallie (Warner) Jones, both of whom were natives of Virginia. During the childhood of Mrs. Cornell they moved to Illinois, in 1831 settling in Marshall County, where Mr. Jones purchased a farm upon which he lived the remainder of his life. There Mr. and Mrs. Jones reared eight children, of whom Mrs. Cornell was the fourth in order of birth. The father died in 1849, four years after the mother. Nine children were born of the second marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cornell, but eight died in infancy, the

one remaining being Jessie, who with Mrs. Cornell makes her home on the old homestead near Cornell. The residence is a frame structure, containing nine rooms, built about 1854, at which time it was conceded to be the second best house in the county.

Mr. Cornell's death, which took place May 5, 1889, was regarded as a public calamity, for he had many friends not only in Livingston, but throughout the State, as he was a man who had taken an unusually active part in the affairs of the municipality, and as a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser had borne his part in the development of Illinois from wild prairie land to the great commonwealth it is to-day. Although reared a Quaker, in later life Mr. Cornell identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CORRIGAN, John.—The life record of such men as John Corrigan should be an inspiration to the youth struggling against odds for supremacy in agriculture, for he has demonstrated that success may come from earnest and unremitting devotion to duty, without the aid of superior education or influential friends and money at the outset of one's career. Mr. Corrigan's life began on a small rented farm in County Cavan, Ulster, Ireland, December 25, 1834, where in boyhood he attended the public schools of his native land about seven years. His parents, Patrick and Alice (Connelly) Corrigan, were in very moderate circumstances, and were never attracted by the superior opportunities which drew their son away from his heavily taxed and oppressed fatherland. The lad in time began to work for other farmers in County Cavan, and in 1863 emigrated to New York City, where he found employment for about three months. He then came to Naperville, DuPage County, Ill., where he worked on farms, and in December, 1863, married Jemima Dunlap, also born in County Cavan, and who had come to America on board the same ship as her husband. Mrs. Corrigan is a daughter of Wilson and Laticia (Eckels) Dunlap, who never came to America. Mr. Corrigan worked out for a year after his marriage, then operated rented farms for some years. In time purchasing eighty acres of land near Chatsworth, Ill., to which he later added forty acres more.

In 1883, Mr. Corrigan sold his land near Chatsworth, removing to Amity Township, and that he there found the proper place for his energy and ambition may be believed when it is known that, in a comparatively few years, he became the owner of over a section of land, at one time paying taxes on more than eight hundred acres. He also owned a farm of 480 acres near Pipestone, Minn. He turned his attention principally to stock, raising the best of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and also dealt quite extensively in real estate in the country and towns of the county. His death, March 31, 1905, concluded what had been a really successful career, and pointed an emphasizing finger at the qualities of persistence, good judgment, thrift and business sagacity. Of his personality only the best may be said, and of

his generosity many exist who can testify that they owe their start in life to his disinterested kindness and assistance. Amity Township, which his career so conspicuously developed, will long profit by his efforts and example, for all but one of his living children acknowledge this as their home, and his children's children doubtless will help to till these fertile acres. The old home place is at present operated by his oldest son, Peter, who was born in February, 1865. The next son, Eugene, died at the age of twenty-seven years; Mary E. is the wife of James Wallace, of Amity Township; Hugh lives on a farm in Minnesota; James resides with his mother; Alice is the wife of Ray Snyder, of Amity Township, and Margaret is the wife of James Grant, of the same township.

COSSEL, Abraham, another of the old pioneers of Livingston County, and a man intimately associated with the early settlers and history of this locality, is now residing on Section 8, Reading Township. He was born May 21, 1830, in Lafayette, Pa., a son of Henry and Susanna (Miller) Cossel. Reared in Lafayette, Mr. Cossel attended the schools of his neighborhood, and remained with his parents until he attained his majority. He then began working for his father by the month, and for neighboring farmers, and the first five dollars he earned he gave to his father. He remained in Pennsylvania until the fall of 1855. Having been married on April 5th of that year, he decided to emigrate to the West where there was more chance for a young man than the overcrowded East offered. So he made the long trip on horseback, arriving in Reading Township, Livingston County, Ill., on September 30th after a journey of fourteen days. His wife came by railroad with a family named Overholt.

At first he rented land in the Township, but in 1857 he bought forty acres on Section 8, and erected a small frame building on it in which they lived two years before it was plastered. All the time he was working to secure more land, and his farm now consists of 320 acres and is one of the very best farms in Livingston County. He bought 160 acres from the Illinois Central Railroad, paying thirteen dollars per acre. For three years he was unable to pay the three per cent. interest charged, but the railroad was very lenient with him, and waited until he had sufficient to discharge his debt. Mr. Cossel feels that the Illinois Central did a great deal to develop the country. Whenever a man was honest, and the management saw he was struggling to establish a home, every advantage was given him.

Mr. Cossel passed through all the hardships and adventures of those early days. For many years all the grain was hauled to Ottawa, but when the Illinois Central reached Wenona, arrangements were made by it to haul the grain to Chicago, sell it and, after deducting the freight, return the proceeds to the farmer. He tells of one trip he made to Ottawa with 216 bushels of barley he had raised on six acres of Illinois Central land. He planned his trip so as

to arrive in time to hear one of the celebrated Lincoln and Douglas debates. He arrived in Ottawa at 2:35, sold his barley for \$2.10 per bushel, and had the great privilege of hearing the debate which will never fade from his memory. He returned home with enough money to pay off the debt remaining on his first forty acres of land.

When Mr. Cossel located in Livingston County there was but little land broken, and so level was the ground and excellent his eyesight, that he could stand in his own door and see Wenona, which was nine miles distant. There are very few of the old pioneers left, E. B. Bradford being the only other one in Reading besides Mr. Cossel. Mr. Cossel frankly admits that if he and his wife had been able to get back to their old home during the first two years, they would have abandoned their farm—they were so poor and met with so many discouragements; but fortunately they did persevere, and their beautiful residence and finely developed farm testify that they did not labor in vain. To add to their many misfortunes, the first winter Mr. Cossel was sick in bed with typhoid fever, but his wife proved a good nurse and brought him through safely. In times of greatest depression, she cheered him on and more than bore her part in the work and hardships.

Mr. and Mrs. Cossel were the parents of the following children: Harriet R., married George Snyder, a farmer near Storm Lake, Iowa; Martha, wife of Emmett Dekeman, a resident of Streator, Ill.; James H., died in infancy; Tina Mary, wife of William N. Moon, a banker of Streator; Frank, a farmer of Long Point Township; Benjamin, a farmer of Reading Township, on Section 17; Daniel, of Streator; Belle, at home; Martin, died at the age of seven years; Mrs. Cossel died July 17, 1887. Her maiden name was Margaret Weaver, and she was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., about twenty miles from the home of Mr. Cossel in 1832.

On March 19, 1890. Mr. Cossel married Miss May McManus, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have one daughter—Frances. Mr. Cossel has always been a Democrat, but his views in favor of temperance have led him to change to the Prohibition party. He and his wife belong to the Church of Christ at Ancona, Ill. After his long and eminently useful life, Mr. Cossel can well afford to be satisfied with what he has accomplished, and his children have every cause to be proud of the name he has associated with the early history of Livingston County.

COSEL, Frank W., of Livingston County, Ill., has some of the very best farms in Illinois, situated as it is in the midst of the corn belt, and possessing every advantage as to climate, soil and drainage. These farms have all been reclaimed from the wilderness and developed until they are wonderfully fertile, and their rich, black acres testify the prosperity of the owners. One of those fortunate enough to be a farmer of this locality is Frank W. Cossel, a farmer on Section 2, Long Point Township, who was born

on Section 8, in Reading Township, Livingston County, March 10, 1865. His parents, Abraham and Margaret (Weaver) Cossel were farmers in Long Point Township, and he and his wife were very prominent people.

Frank W. Cossel was reared to manhood on Section 8, Reading Township, and received his education in the district schools while working on his father's farm, learning all the details of farm life at an early age. He remained with his father until he attained his majority, and then began farming on his own account, renting eighty acres of land for six years, and made a success of his undertaking. On December 24, 1890, he married Miss Nancy Gwinn, who was born in La Salle County, Ill., October 1, 1869, a daughter of James and Nancy R. (Parrish) Gwinn, both natives of West Virginia, who came to Illinois and settled in La Salle County, Ill., in 1869, where Mr. Gwinn died in 1900. His widow is now living in Streator, Ill. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gwinn were as follows: Dora, who married James Smith of Sioux City, Iowa; John, a resident of Virginia; Lilly, who married Fred Masterman of Gary, Ind.; Albert, of Streator, Ill.; Ella, widow of Benjamin Hewitt, a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Lucy, who is the wife of Grant Dunbar, proprietor of a paint and paper house at Streator, Ill., and Mrs. Cossel. After the family located in La Salle County, Mr. Gwinn followed mining. The whole Gwinn family are members of the Methodist Church, and very active in its work.

Mr. and Mrs. Cossel located in Reading Township where Mr. Cossel followed farming from 1894 to 1904. Mr. Cossel traveled quite extensively over the United States, while his wife and two children visited in Streator, but in 1904 returned home and took charge of the farm on Section 2, Long Point Township, owned by his brother-in-law, W. A. Moon, of Streator, containing 320 acres. He has from one hundred to three hundred head of cattle in his shipments each year. Mr. Cossel has general supervision of the farm, and is meeting with success in raising stock and general farming. Mr. and Mrs. Cossel have two children: Maud, born December 20, 1891, and Dora, born August 10, 1893. Mrs. Cossel is a member of the Mystic Workers of Streator, while Mr. Cossel is a Democrat in his political relations. They are representative farming people, and enjoy the confidence and respect of their neighbors and relatives.

COTTINGHAM, George R., retired farmer, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Mr. Cottingham's career is an unmistakable illustration of the fact that character will win in the battle of life; a demonstration which means that simple, direct honesty is really more potent than the tricky devices of the unscrupulous: a testimony to the difference by which money honestly acquired is distinguished from tainted money; a proof that a godly life is valuable not only in a spiritual sense, but in the acquisition of the good things of this world; an object lesson point-

ing to the trite, but edifying, declaration that "Honesty is the best policy."

Born in Peoria County, Ill., May 8, 1850, Mr. Cottingham is a son of John F. and Mary J. (Kinsey) Cottingham. His grandparents in both lines were early residents in Southern Illinois and eventually removed near to Peoria. John F. Cottingham, who was a farmer, began his married life there, and there were born his six daughters and five sons. Anna was born in McLean County, Ill. His brother, Thomas V. Cottingham, is living in Peoria County. His sister, Rachel, is the wife of A. P. Parr, of Trivoli, Peoria County; his sister Eliza is the wife of Isaac Herff, of Elmwood, Ill., and his sister Emily resides at the old home.

Ten of the children of John F. Cottingham, are yet living. William F. is a citizen of Peoria. Thomas L., a farmer, lives near Pontiac. Lydia married William Frisby, a farmer near Fairbury. Triphenia married C. H. Sutton, who died early in life at McCook, Neb. Elsie is the wife of A. E. Chapman, a machinist living in Fairbury. Lewis lives at Fairbury. Martha married George Olm, a farmer at Fairbury. Kate is Mrs. Herman Shedd, of Boone, Iowa. Emma is the wife of Peter Garber, a farmer of Fairbury. Anna lives at Fairbury. John, who died at the age of thirty-two years, married Ida Hallock, who is now the wife of Columbus Bivens, Arkansas City, Cowley County, Kan. In 1873 the family removed from Peoria to McLean County, Ill., where the father died in 1894 and the mother in 1900, the children eventually separating by marriage or otherwise.

George R. Cottingham was educated in district schools and at Cole's Business College, Peoria. In 1873 he accepted a position with the Street Railway Company of Peoria, which he filled until 1875, when circumstances demanded his return to the home roof to take charge of the farm and the family interests. He had had youthful experience at farm work, and now became a farmer in earnest, but it was a hard battle for a number of years to keep the wolf from the door, as there was no certainty in raising a crop in those days. The farms were very flat and undrained, and the seasons usually very wet; but in later years there was a great change for the better.

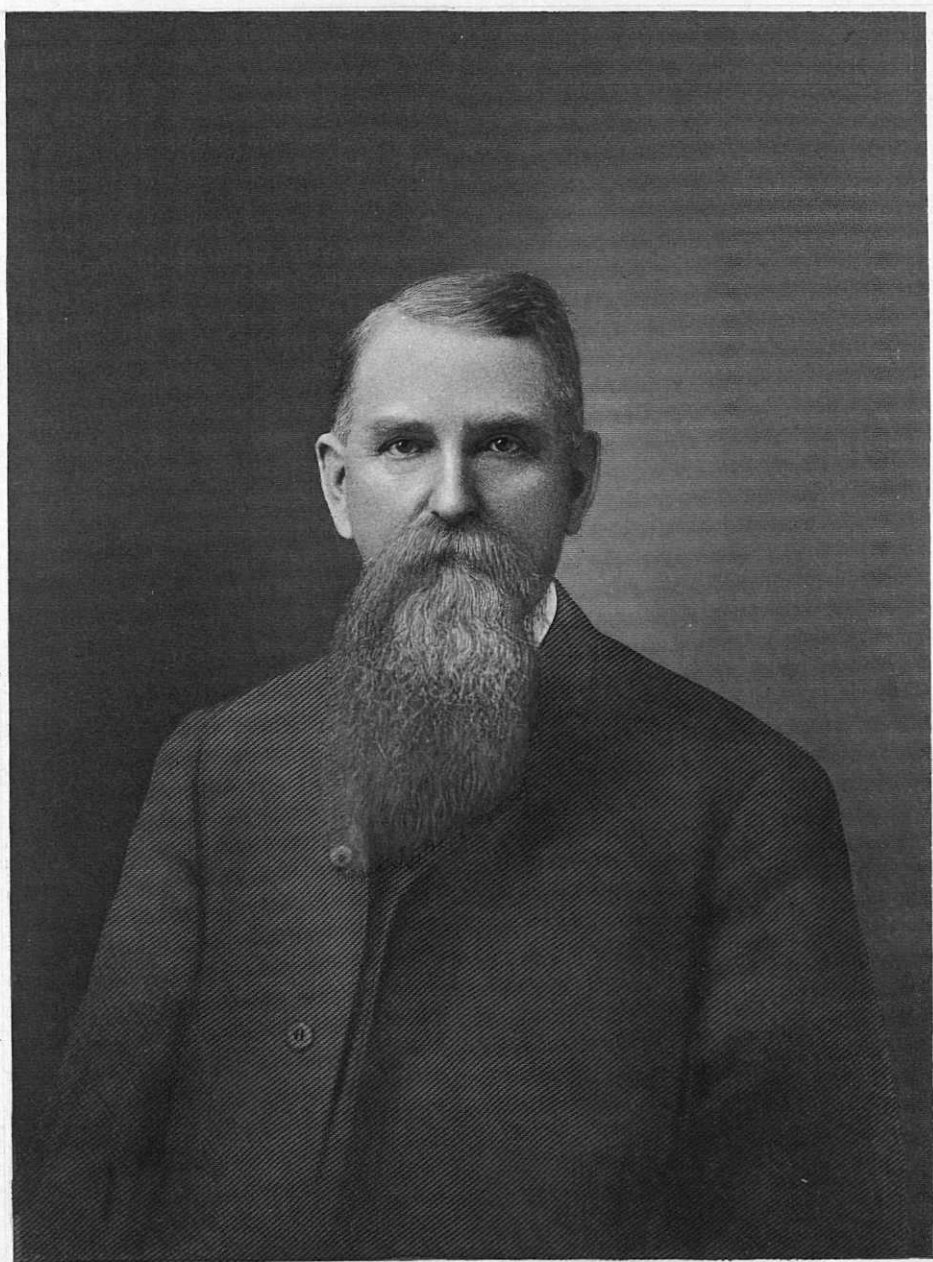
In December, 1885, Mr. Cottingham married Miss Belle Hilton, a native of the State of New York, who, when a mere child, had been brought by her parents to Livingston County. He built a house on the farm near that of his parents and lived there several years. After the death of his father he continued to operate the Cottingham farm, increased to 160 acres, but scantily improved. He made of it one of the finest places in that part of the county, tiling it throughout and outfitting it with a fair residence and necessary outbuildings. By superior management he had rescued the family, had cared for his parents in their declining years, and helped and encouraged his younger brothers and sisters until they were comfortably settled in life. In 1896 he removed to a comfortable home in the southwest part of Fairbury, and for some years

afterward was engaged in the poultry and produce trade, as the senior member of the firm of Cottingham and Patton, doing an extensive business and paying the highest market price for produce. He is now practically retired from active life. Mr. and Mrs. Cottingham have for many years been active in church work. He was converted in 1879 and joined the Evangelical Church of Beulah, McLean County. In 1884 he became a member of the Free Methodist Church of Fairbury, in the management of which he has been prominent, serving for many years as class leader. Formerly he was a Democrat in his political affiliations, but an experience of his life led him to favor the prohibition movement and he actively identified himself with it. He had the honor of receiving a medal proclaiming him an 1884 member of the Prohibition Party, which was presented to him by the Hon. John P. St. John of Kansas. He has never sought office for himself, but has twice been a delegate to Prohibition State Conventions and was in 1908 chosen a delegate to the Springfield Convention of his party, and also was a delegate to the National Convention at Columbus, Ohio. He has for many years been a delegate to the annual conference of the Free Methodist Church, and has done much to aid that church, locally and otherwise, always being liberally helpful and charitable in educational movements. He has not lived a selfish life, but has always been ready to assist others to the extent of his ability. It is his pleasure to help others to see the light and help them to walk in it.

Mr. and Mrs. Cottingham have two daughters named Jessie and Nora. Jessie was graduated from the Fairbury High School with the class of 1907, and holds a teacher's certificate, and is now teaching in this county; Nora expects to graduate with the class of 1909.

COWAN, Augustus W.—For more than one-half century Mr. Cowan has been a resident of Pontiac, during which long period he has filled various civic offices and business responsibilities with energy and fidelity and has proved himself a progressive, public-spirited citizen, ever solicitous to promote the welfare of his town and county. The family of which he is a member early became established in the East, and the records show that some of his ancestors were among the very first settlers of Watertown, N. Y., when all of that region was yet a wilderness unmolested by advancing civilization. On another side the genealogy is traced to Scotland, whence Andrew and Euphemia (Kelley) Cowan, migrated to the United States in 1797 and settled in New York, their son William being a native of that State. The latter married Emeline, daughter of Henry Hale Coffeen, and afterward he conducted a hardware store in Watertown. His death occurred sometime during the '50s.

Augustus W. Cowan was born at Watertown, N. Y., October 14, 1837, and there received a district-school education, which was supplemented by attendance at the Jefferson County



BR Johnson

Institute, N. Y. At the age of eighteen years he left home to seek a livelihood further west. The journey was made by railroad to Buffalo, thence by boat to Monroe, Mich., and from there by railroad to Chicago, finally proceeding by railroad to Morris, Ill., where he secured a position as clerk in a general store. A few months later he returned to New York where he remained one year, when he again came to Illinois, this time settling in Pontiac and securing a clerkship in the general store of Cowan & Lee, the first member of this firm being a brother who had preceded him to Illinois several years. After three years he left this store and became an employe in the office of the County Recorder, remaining for two years. In 1862 he formed a partnership with Judge Duff in the real-estate and banking business and, in 1867 also became interested in abstracting, continuing in these three lines until 1870, when the banking business was closed, and two years later the partnership was dissolved, since which time Mr. Cowan has continued in business alone. His marriage took place in August, 1867, by which he was united with Miss Mary H. P. Christian, by whom he has one daughter, Emeline. Mrs. Cowan was born in Utica, N. Y., a daughter of Luther and Margaret (George) Christian, natives of York State, and descendants of ancestors who came to this country from the Isle of Man.

In political views Mr. Cowan has been an earnest believer in Democratic principles and has voted that ticket at all general elections. For several years he represented the Third Ward as a member of the City Council, and for eleven years was connected with the County Treasurer's office, either as deputy or principal. Fraternally he holds membership with the Elks and Masons, and maintains a warm interest in their philanthropic labors. Upon the organization of the Episcopal Church at Pontiac in 1878 he became a charter member of that body, and was elected treasurer, which office he has filled continuously to the present time, while in other ways he has promoted the welfare of the congregation and contributed to its missionary enterprises.

CRAIG, Frederick.—The farmer is the most independent of men, for with his land upon which he can raise food, his home to shelter him, he stands less in need of the help of others than any other class. The outside world, too, depends very materially upon him and his crops. As the crops turn out, so fares the prosperity of a country. Among the successful and progressive farmers of Livingston County, Frederick Craig, who is comfortably located on Section 31, Avoca Township, is recognized as a good representative of the county's best interests. He was born in Greencastle, Putnam County, Ind., December 5, 1855, a son of James M. and Elizabeth (Williams) Craig, both natives of Mt. Sterling, Ky. About 1850 the parents were married in Kentucky, and soon thereafter settled in Greencastle, Ind., where the father followed his trade as a carpenter, until the outbreak of the Civil War.

He then enlisted and after a year's service re-enlisted and served three years, being honorably discharged at the close, when he returned to Greencastle and resumed his employment, working as a carpenter until about 1871, when he went to Bates County, Mo., where he bought eighty acres of land and began farming. Here he remained until 1885, when he and his wife went to Macomb, Ill., and there rented land until about 1895, when they began living with their children. Their family was as follows: Mary Donalson, Frederick James, Amanda F., who married John Bear, a farmer of Kansas, where the mother died in the '90s, when the father returned to Greencastle where he died in September, 1905, and is there interred; James William, died at the age of thirteen while the family lived in Missouri.

While living in Indiana as a boy, Frederick Craig attended school, thus continuing until sixteen, but at that time he went with his parents to Missouri, and began farming upon wild land for his father. When his parents removed to Macomb, he accompanied them and there obtained work by the month when he went to Tazewell County to visit a sister, and for about four years worked in that county. He then came to Fairbury and worked on a farm.

On January 7, 1885, Frederick Craig married Jennie Anderson, a daughter of William Anderson, now deceased, and that year the young couple rented a farm in McLean County and for five years made it their home. In 1890 they rented a farm in Charlotte Township, Livingston County, where they spent five years, the next five years being spent near Fairbury. In 1901 Mr. Craig rented 160 acres in Avoca Township, upon which they have made a very pleasant home and have met with a decided success. Two children have been born to them: Cora Ella and William O. Mr. Craig has given his children good educations, Miss Cora having been graduated from the Fairbury High School, class of 1904. For some years she taught school in Livingston County, and in 1907 took a year's course in the Normal School at Normal, Ill. William O. will graduate from the Fairbury High School in the Class of 1909. Mrs. Craig is a member of the Methodist Church. Fraternally, Mr. Craig has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America for some time. He is a strong Republican and has always taken an active part in political matters.

Mr. Craig is a practical farmer and stock-raiser and keeps a dozen fine horses for carriage and farm purposes. He thoroughly believes in carrying good stock, and at one time made a specialty of Short-horn cattle, but later sold off all his cattle of this breed. He has seventy-five acres in corn and sixty acres in oats, and looks for good crops. By his energy and thrift he has achieved success, and by his straight, honorable business methods he has won and retained the respect and confidence of his neighbors.

CROCKER, Fletcher L., M. D., a well known and skillful physician of Pontiac, Ill., was born

in Manchester, Dearborn County, Ind., May 2, 1866. Although his advent in his present location dates back only to a comparatively recent period, his superior attainments in medical science, his high personal character and strict fidelity to the duties of his calling have won general recognition, and secured for him the respect and confidence of the entire community. The Crocker family was of English origin. Dr. Crocker is a son of William F. and Abby E. (Ellis) Crocker, natives of New York and Indiana, respectively. William F. Crocker was a merchant by occupation. When a boy, about the year 1830, he was taken from his eastern home to Indiana by his parents, who settled near the Ohio River and there he grew up to manhood and was married to Abby E. Ellis. Before this event took place he was engaged in partnership with Philip Studebaker, the head of the noted Studebaker family, who afterwards established the extensive Studebaker Bros.' wagon works at South Bend, Ind., which has since become the largest institution of its kind in the world. Impelled by ill health, he relinquished that connection and spent several years in traveling for recuperation, subsequently returning to Indiana and locating again at Manchester, in that State there resuming the mercantile business, in which he continued until his death, August 8, 1892. His widow still survives. Their family consisted of four children, three of whom are living. William F. Crocker was a man of considerable prominence in his locality—a zealous student and great reader, and very charitable. In politics, he was a Democrat, and wielded a strong influence in the local councils of his party, serving two terms as County Treasurer of Dearborn County. A Master and Royal Arch Mason, he took a great interest in the work of that order, being Master of his lodge for many years. His religious faith was that of the Universalist church, his wife, however, being connected with the Methodist denomination. Fletcher L. Crocker received his preparatory education in the Manchester High School, continuing his studies in the Lebanon (Ohio) University. He then entered upon the study of his chosen profession in Miami Medical University of Cincinnati, from which institution he was graduated in 1891. After practicing a short time in Manchester, Ind., he established his office in Weston, McLean County, Ill., in 1892. Subsequently, he went abroad to supplement his medical research, doing post-graduate work in the Chicago Polyclinic in 1901 and London University, England, and continuing such work in New York at the Post Graduate Medical College in 1903 and 1906. Dr. Crocker was successfully engaged in practice at Weston, Ill., until 1904, when he went to Fort Worth, Tex., opening an office there. In August, of the following year, he located in Pontiac, Ill., which has since been his field of effort.

On June 17, 1891, Dr. Crocker was united in marriage with Nettie Johnson, who was born in Manchester, Ind., a daughter of Robert W. and Sarah (Risinger) Johnson, her parents being early settlers of that locality. Two children

have resulted from this union, namely: Ruth Elma, born June 16, 1892; and Harold F., born February 16, 1895.

In politics, Dr. Crocker is allied with the Democratic party, but maintains an independent attitude in local elections. His religious connection, as also that of his estimable wife, is with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, and also holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Professionally, the Doctor is a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the McLean and Livingston County Medical Societies.

CRUM, David S.—Americans are proud of their government, their country and its great men, its public institutions, its prestige abroad and its prosperity at home, but above all, of the products indigenous to it, and those which are more perfectly grown here than in any other part of the world. Particularly is this true of corn, the food grain of the United States, and its most valuable native cereal. Until this great country of ours was annexed to the then civilized world, what we now designate as corn was unknown to any other than the Indian race. From this now almost extinct people it took its name of "Indian Maize," and now is called "Indian corn" and "corn." We Americans have nothing to do with the corn mentioned in the secular and religious records since the beginning of the world, for that refers to wheat, barley, rye and other small grains. We have to do directly with our own Indian corn, which is destined, according to the firm belief of the best agriculturists of the country, to become king among other grains and supersede wheat as the food grain of the world. Nowhere is it grown more perfectly than in the Middle States, and Central Illinois is peculiarly adapted to its cultivation.

The most progressive of Illinois farmers are taking this stand and, among those who first put forth this theory and carried it into practice, David S. Crum stands pre-eminent. For fifty years he has pinned his faith to corn, and on his broad acres raised the grain year after year, meeting with astonishing success. Mr. Crum resides on Section 17, Belle Prairie Township, but he was born in Huntington County, Pa., December 8, 1826, a son of Cornelius and Margaret (Gray) Crum, and John Crum was his paternal grandfather. The latter was born in Holland, March 6, 1761, and there married on March 8, 1785, Mary Crum, a cousin, also born in Holland. Their children were as follows: William, born June 2, 1786, died when a young man, December 11, 1797; Mary, born March 16, 1787, died January 11, 1811, in Pennsylvania; and Cornelius.

Cornelius Crum was born September 22, 1790, and died near Columbus, Ohio, August 29, 1850. His wife, Margaret, was born October 15, 1789, also died near Columbus, Ohio, February 26, 1853. They were married October 15, 1811, and had children as follows: Mary, born November

12, 1812, married John Smith, born January 3, 1814, and both died in Huntingdon County, Pa., she on February 21, 1898, aged eighty-five, and he, April 25, 1884, aged seventy years, three months and two days; Catherine, born January 16, 1815, married May 3, 1832; Isaiah Runyan, born July 23, 1817; Margaret Ruth, born September 23, 1818, on March 26, 1835, married John Byer, who died, when she later married D. Parrish, and died August 31, 1862; John B., born November 14, 1820, died June 2, 1882, at Pleasant Hill near Lexington, Ill.; Samuel D., born October 17, 1822, died near Hilliard, Ohio; James Stephen, born November 1, 1824; William A., born January 15, 1829, died near Columbus, Ohio; Rebecca, born January 9, 1831, married Benjamin Walton, and died near Los Angeles, Cal., while her husband is still living a resident of Long Beach, Cal.; Sarah, was born September 3, 1833, married George H. Lattimer, and is still a resident of Ohio, being, beside David S. Crum, the only member of the parents' family yet living. Her husband died August 24, 1908.

David S. Crum came with his family from Pennsylvania to Ohio, settling in Franklin County, that State, where he engaged in farming. In 1855 he again made a change, this time locating in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he bought 600 acres of land. In order to get neighbors he sold eighty acres of his property, the purchaser being Aaron Becker. When Mr. Crum located in Livingston County there was but one house between Indian Grove and Cheney's Grove, a distance of fifteen miles. Upon his large property Mr. Crum built a little log house, 16 x 18 feet, on Section 17. Wild game supplied the table with meat and the herbs furnished vegetables and medicines. The log house gave way to a more commodious home; the game disappeared and where once grew the wild herbs now flourishes one of the finest truck gardens to be found in this part of the State. Mr. Crum has witnessed many changes. He has seen the wild land develop into rich farms and flourishing cities, and he has the proud consciousness that he has helped to bring about these changes in no small way. Mr. Crum has been very active in church work and given generously of his time and means towards the building of the First Methodist Church of Fairview and the First Methodist Church of Fairbury, in which he has been a class-leader for many years. A strong Republican, he has filled many township offices very creditably and has borne his part in the maintenance of law and order. During the late anti-saloon crusade he and Mrs. Crum bore an active part in it, and they have the satisfaction of knowing that there are better men in the county and township offices than there had been for years before. For thirty-seven years Mrs. Crum has been a teacher in the Sunday School, and is a member of the Methodist Church and of the W. C. T. U. She is a most intelligent and charming lady, and, with her husband, deservedly popular not only in church circles, but socially throughout Livingston County. In addition to his other interests Mr. Crum has been

for many years a stockholder and Director of the First National Bank of Fairbury. He has been a total abstainer from intoxicating liquor and has never tried to do two days' work in one.

On February 27, 1851, Mr. Crum married Mary A. Walton, born March 12, 1837, near Columbus, Ohio, a sister of Isaac Walton. She died on December 29, 1860, having borne her husband children as follows: Dwight, born January 31, 1853, near Los Angeles; Emma Frances, born October 25, 1855, died October 25, 1855; Edwin W., born October 24, 1856, a blacksmith of Cropsey, Ill., married Sabra Van Patten, and they have five living children and one deceased; Lina E., born June 12, 1858, married Peter McDonald on April 12, 1883, who was born April 16, 1844, but died and thereafter she married on March 14, 1901, Daniel Buckwalter, she dying October 15, 1905, leaving one son, David C.; Sarah A., born March 15, 1860, and died the same month. Mr. Crum's second wife was May Morgan, a native of Pennsylvania, who bore her husband children as follows: Mira Alma, married Lorenzo Alford of Monon, Ind., and Jennie F., who married George Bennett, a prominent farmer of Belle Prairie Township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Crum died December 12, 1873. Mr. Crum was again married April 22, 1874, to Miss Jane Parmeter, a native of Providence, R. I. Her parents located first in Wisconsin, then in Iowa, where the father died, his wife surviving him, but later dying at the home of Mrs. Crum.

From the beginning of his farming experience Mr. Crum has been progressive in his ideas and has lived to see many of his views adopted. Earlier in life he was a large stock-breeder, but of late years has devoted much of his attention to corn growing and, as before stated, is firm in his belief that in time the farmers in the Corn Belt will devote all of their energy to raising this great American staple food grain.

CRUMBAKER, John H., a most excellent example of the sturdy, substantial, progressive farmers of Livingston County, who have so materially aided in making this part of Central Illinois the thriving center of agricultural life it now is, resides on a fine farm of 310 acres in Avoca Township, being born in Muskingum County, Ohio, August 11, 1845, a son of William and Margaret (Piper) Crumbaker, and grandson of John and Catherine (Kaler) Crumbaker. The grandparents were both natives of Germany who settled in Virginia where William Crumbaker was born. When he was about four years old, his father, John Crumbaker, moved to Muskingum County, Ohio, and there both parents died.

William Crumbaker was reared on the farm in Muskingum County, and became acquainted with Margaret Piper, who had been born in Pennsylvania. They were married in Coshocton County, Ohio, and had a large family as follows: an infant who died unnamed; John H.; Rev.

Marion V., now in charge of the Methodist Church at Fairbury, but during the Civil War was a member of the One Hundred Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry in which he served about eight months; Sarah, who married Spence E. Smith, of Nebraska; Oliver, a farmer near Cropsey, Ill.; Maria E., who married William Stickler, now postmaster at Lexington, McLean County, Ill.; Samuel W., in the State of Washington, who was one of the pioneers there and where his family was born; Jonas Kaler, a hardware merchant of Garfield, Wash.; Johanna, who married J. C. Finley, of Schuyler, Neb.; Margaret, who married Henry C. Wilson, a farmer near Colfax, Wash.; Alice, who married Ralph Wilson, a brother of Henry C. Wilson, and a hardware merchant of Garfield, Wash. Ten of these twelve children are yet living and all are people of means and a credit to the communities in which they are living. John Crumbaker, a brother of William, settled near Colfax, and there reared a large family, nine of whom grew to maturity, and two of whom died. On both sides the family is noted for its longevity, William Crumbaker having lived to be eighty-two years old; his brother John was eighty-four at the time of his death, and Mrs. William Crumbaker died at the age of eighty. They all have been healthy, hard-working people, who have lived clean, wholesome lives and the younger generations are following the excellent examples set them.

William Crumbaker came with his family to McLean County in 1864, settling near Lexington, where he and his wife died. They were both consistent members of the Methodist Church and he was a class-leader and teacher of the bible class for many years. Both he and his wife were active in all church work and most excellent people. The Crumbakers can be reasoned with, but never driven. They are firm in their adherence to what they consider right and are not easily moved from a stand when once it is taken. Mr. Crumbaker was a Whig for many years, but when the Republican party was organized, he became one of the most faithful followers of the principles of President Lincoln.

John H. Crumbaker was educated in the schools of his native State. In 1866 he began teaching school which continued for sixteen years, and, after coming with his parents to McLean County, remained there until about 1884 when he moved to Livingston County, settling in Belle Prairie Township. In 1885 he rented land on which he remained until 1889, when he moved to the southern part of the Township and rented 310 acres on Section 23, Avoca Township, which he rented of Lee McDowell. Each year he has about 200 acres under cultivation and raises considerable stock, being a thoroughly practical farmer who is making a success of his work. He has filled various township offices, including Township School Treasurer, member of the School Board, and Tax Collector, and in every office has proven his ability and strict probity. He is a staunch Republican, as are his sons, and they are prominent in the work of the party in

their locality. The family are all Methodists and Mr. Crumbaker is a Trustee of the Avoca Methodist Church.

On March 25, 1869, Mr. Crumbaker was married to Elizabeth J. Wilson, born in Jackson, Ohio, a daughter of Patton and Susanna (Newman) Wilson, both natives of Ohio. Mrs. Crumbaker was only eight years of age when her parents settled in McLean County about 1858, and there in Pleasant Hill, Lexington Township, her father was a blacksmith and worked in his shop to the day of his death in 1898. His widow survives and lives in Lexington, Ill.; aged seventy-eight years. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson: Mary, who married Henry Richard; Alice, widow of Frank Shortwell; Nancy, who married John Barrett of Lexington, Ill.; William, of Evanston, Ill.; Charles, of Missouri; Hettie, who married George Jones of Chenoa, Ill.; Mattie (deceased), who married Austin McCormick of Lexington, Ill.; Luella (deceased), married Scott McMullen of Pontiac; Stella, who married David Yates of Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Crumbaker have had children as follows, all but the youngest born in McLean County: Carrie, born January 21, 1870, died February 8, 1881; Victor, born September 30, 1871, is now an able minister of the Methodist Church. Nettie C., born January 23, 1874, died in infancy; William S., born September 3, 1875, married Ella De Moss, and died February 11, 1904, his widow now living in Indiana with her three children. Jesse, Mamie and Chester; David T., born March 2, 1878, married Carrie Martin, and they live in Avoca Township, having two children—Everett and May; Jonas Kaler, born March 8, 1880, married Minnie Ballder, who was born in Ohio and daughter of Andrew Ballder, and they have four children—Ettie, Agnes, Jesse and Leona. George R., born September 21, 1883, a farmer who married Carrie Sowards; John P., born December 18, 1889, in Avoca Township, and is at home.

DALLEY, William W.—No history of Livingston County would be complete without mention of the Dalley family, for its members have played a very important part in the development and progress of the county. The Dalley family originated in Devonshire, England, where Mr. William W. Dalley was born May 18, 1846. There, too, his father, John Dalley, was born, spent his life engaged in farming and died at the age of seventy-four years. The mother, Eliza (Willey) Dalley, was born in Devonshire and died there also aged seventy-four years. John and Eliza Dalley had seven children, of whom William W. was the third son. At the age of nineteen he followed two other brothers to Australia, and for ten years remained there engaged in farming. He then returned to England, but after a visit of a few months he returned to Australia. Once more he went back to England, but after three years emigrated to the United States, in 1880, landing in New York City after a short stop on Long Island. From there



HENRY JOOST

he came to Rockford, Ill., but at the end of two years went to Canada, and then after six months settled in Saunemin Township, and for a year worked for a farmer, when he located on the farm he now occupies on Sections 15 and 22, including 180 acres in all.

On October 28, 1884, Mr. Dalley married Miss Sarah H. Bramley, a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., who was brought to Illinois by her parents some forty-eight years ago. They first located at Fairbury, but later removed to Saunemin Township. Three girls have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dalley, namely: Eliza Rose Elizabeth, aged twenty-two, married July 15, 1908, Mr. F. J. Hesner, of Arkansas, residing in Las Vegas, N. M.; Florence Alice, aged nineteen, and Annie Ruth, aged seventeen. The eldest daughter is the organist of the choir of the Methodist Church of Saunemin in which both sisters and the father sing, although Mr. Dalley is an Episcopalian, while his wife is a Methodist and is active in church work.

While born in the United States, Mrs. Dalley is of English descent, as her people came from Lincolnshire, England. In politics Mr. Dalley is a Republican, although not active in party matters. He is deeply interested in giving his daughters good educations, having himself been educated in England and well grounded in the regular branches. Mr. Dalley has accomplished what is not given to everyone to do; he has circumnavigated the globe, having made two trips between England and Australia—once by the Cape of Good Hope and once by the Suez Canal, the trips taking from forty-five to seventy-four days, as they were made by steamboat or sailing vessel. In the fall of 1906 Mr. Dalley returned to England to re-visit old scenes and greatly enjoyed the trip. He and his wife usually take a trip to some point of interest during the winter, their last one being to the Pacific Coast.

DANFORTH, Byron W., one of the leading and progressive farmers of Livingston County, residing on Section 11, Indian Grove Township, was born in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell County, January 23, 1852, and began what was to be a busy life on the home farm in Tazewell County, at the same time attending the district school. As soon as large enough, he did a man's work and was very useful, remaining at home until his marriage February 11, 1873, with Miss Phoebe Van Camp, who was born in Tazewell County, March 15, 1849, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Marteeny) Van Camp, natives of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, respectively. Mrs. Van Camp was born in 1819, and in 1822 her parents moved to Ohio, Mr. Van Camp locating in the same locality in 1841 and there they were married, emigrating to Buckeye Township, Tazewell County, the same year. There they settled and began pioneer life, becoming very prominent farmers, remaining there until Mr. Van Camp's death in 1887, when Mrs. Van Camp went to Washington, Ill., where she remained until 1908 when she came to the home of Mrs. Danforth. She is a bright old lady of ninety

years with a clear mind, and she delights in talking of pioneer days in Ohio and Illinois. She and her husband had children as follows: Sarah, born in 1844, married Frank Field, had seven children and died in 1892, her husband still residing in Deer Creek Township; John El., born in 1846, died March 10, 1907; Mrs. Danforth; Theodora, born November 1, 1851, died in infancy; Jane L., born in 1854, married F. H. Humphrey, a resident of Cropsey, Ill.; Susan M., born in 1856, married J. K. Duncan of Denver, Colo.; Mary E., born in 1858, married George M. Myers of Washington, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Danforth had one daughter, Nellie, born May 4, 1875, married Ira T. Brown on March 10, 1897, and they have one child—Marie, born July 17, 1899. Mr. Brown is one of the successful young farmers of Indian Grove Township, living on Section 14 near the homestead of the Danforths.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Danforth came to Livingston County and began their married life on a farm in Belle Prairie Township where his brother Henry now resides, and there they made their home until 1877, when he bought forty acres one mile west of his first location. In 1884 he bought eighty acres in Section 11, Indian Grove Township, partially improved, and on it was a fairly good house and an old shack of a barn. On locating here they began improving their farm, setting out shade and fruit trees, and beautifying their land until they now have one of the most attractive homes in the county. Mr. Danforth has been a very successful farmer, and has added to his eighty acres until he is now the owner in one body of 240 acres, on Sections 11 and 14, Indian Grove Township, as well as eighty acres in Belle Prairie Township, all of which is in a high state of cultivation. For some years he was extensively engaged in breeding Short-horn cattle, and Poland-China hogs, being one of the first in his Township to turn his attention to breeding fine hogs, but for the past five years he has been devoting himself to general farming. Mr. Danforth has always been deeply interested in educational matters, and cheerfully contributed of his means and time to the support of the schools of his township and for some time has been a School Trustee, and he has always been a staunch Republican. Mrs. Danforth is a member of the Christian church to which Mr. Danforth gives liberally. For thirty-five years Mr. Danforth has been a resident of Livingston County, and during that time he has taken an active part in all its advanced movements and loyally supported what he has believed to be the right side in every discussion that has come up, no matter what the consequence to himself.

DANFORTH, Henry P.—In no other section of the State of Illinois can there be found finer or more fertile farms than those in Livingston County, nor can there be found men who represent in a greater degree the highest type of citizenship. Prominent among the latter may be mentioned Henry P. Danforth, who since 1872

has been a leading resident of Belle Prairie Township, and during that time has been influential in all movements tending toward the advancement of the Township and County interests.

H. P. Danforth was born December 28, 1849, in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell County, Ill., the son of Henry and Abigail (Hathaway) Danforth, natives of Vermont. The Danforth family, which is of English extraction, came from Vermont in 1847 and settled in Tazewell County, where Henry Danforth, the father, followed the occupation of a farmer from 1847 until 1883, when he moved to Washington, Tazewell County, Ill., and lived there the rest of his life, his death occurring there September 10, 1900. His widow surviving him then went to live with her youngest son, James A. Danforth, who now lives in Deer Creek, Tazewell County, where she passed away January 23, 1908.

To them were born six children, namely: Jonathan R., who died at the age of sixteen years; Henry P.; Byron W., a farmer of Indian Grove Township; Lewis J., a lumber merchant of Washington, Ill.; James A., still a resident and a banker of Deer Creek, Ill.; Mary A., wife of Charles C. Holland, a resident of Washington, Ill.

Henry P. Danforth began and ended his school days in Deer Creek Township, and as soon as old enough, took a hand in the work of the farm, on which he remained until twenty-one years of age, at which time he cast his first vote for General Grant. In 1870 his father had purchased 160 acres of land in Section 2, Belle Prairie Township, and during the fall of 1871 Henry P. Danforth located on this property and did the fall plowing, after which he returned home. In the spring of 1872 he again came to the new property, of which he took charge, then in 1873 his Brother Byron and he operated the land together until 1877. Mr. Henry P. Danforth, after his first marriage in 1877, began erecting buildings on the land, and since then has made numerous improvements. He has his property fully tiled, and part of the beautiful fruit and shade trees which add so much to the attractiveness of the place were planted by him. Always a staunch adherent of education, he has done much toward bringing about the efficient school system of his Township, and for many years has been a School Director. In politics he is a Republican and for four years has been Township Commissioner. With his wife he attends the Methodist Church of Cropsey, Ill., of which they are both members, he being a Trustee while his wife is a member of the Foreign Mission Society.

On January 30, 1877, Henry P. Danforth was married to Sarah L. Lanfear, by whom he had three children, as follows: William L., who was married to Maggie R. Ward of Cropsey, Ill., July 7, 1900, is now a farmer near Storm Lake, Iowa, and has two children—Clarence W. and Willis H.; Henry A., who married Carrie M. Keller, of Fairbury, Ill., December 30, 1902, is now a farmer near Storm Lake, Iowa, and they have one daughter, Edith A.; and Leroy A.,

working in a laundry at Fairbury, Ill. The mother of these children died September 7, 1888, and on February 11, 1892, Mr. Danforth was united in marriage with Margaret L. Scott. The present Mrs. Danforth was born on a farm near Washington, Ill., February 4, 1854, the daughter of James P. and Margaret W. (Sample) Scott, natives of Washington County, Pa., of English-Scotch descent, and came to Illinois about the year 1837. Both her parents died at Washington, Ill., the father on August 21, 1866, and the mother April 11, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Scott were the parents of nine children, as follows: E. C. of Normal, Ill.; Martha J., who died April 6, 1890, and who was the wife of David Leedom, also deceased, dying June 6, 1891; John S., who died June 30, 1867; Sarah O., whose death occurred July 9, 1900; Gertrude E., the wife of Marshall Woodbury, of Orleans, Neb.; Mary R., of Normal, Ill.; Mrs. Rebekah V. Guthrie, and Mrs. Ella E. Morton, both of Pontiac, Ill.; and Mrs. Danforth.

DAVIS, Henry L.—Successful as a farmer, having become the owner of 240 acres of the very best farming land in Central Illinois; prominent in his neighborhood as a liberal, progressive and public-spirited citizen, and popular with his neighbors, Henry L. Davis is justly numbered among the representative men of Sunbury Township, Livingston County. He was born in Jennings County, Ind., May 1, 1863, a son of Henry and Rebecca (Crozier) Davis. Henry Davis was born in Ripley County, Ohio, while the mother was born in Jefferson County, Ind. Going to Madison, Ind., Henry Davis there met and married his wife, when they moved to North Vernon, Jennings County, Ind., remaining there until his death, which occurred September 5, 1902, aged seventy-two years, four months, five days. His wife passed away September 20, 1896. By trade, Henry Davis was a plasterer and brick-mason, and followed his trade all his life. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. He was a Republican but not an office-seeker. During the Civil War he served as a member of Company E, Eighty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after an honorable service as a soldier received his discharge. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davis: Ella E. (deceased), who married J. W. Hadley; Hattie (deceased), married Ellis Smitherust, a resident of Onargo, Ill.; William W.; James and John who both died in infancy; Henry L.; Kate C., married Henry Veach of Thawville, Ill.; Mary, married Lawrence Moore, of North Vernon, the old home town of the family; Stella and Gaylord, twins, the latter a farmer near Blackstone, and the former living with her sister, Mrs. Veach. Gaylord married Miss Hines; Eva, married Fred Bottgar, of Clark, S. D.; Frank H., of Hobart, Ind.; Josie, married Frank Stoneking of Holstein, Ia.

Henry L. Davis went to school and worked on a small farm. As soon as old enough he began working by the day or month, thus continuing until 1881, when he came to Livingston County

and settled in Sunbury Township. Here he continued working by the month for two years. On January 13, 1887, he was married to Miss Elizabeth J. Hadley, who was born in Brookfield Township, LaSalle County, Ill. She is a daughter of Benjamin E. Hadley, one of the pioneers of LaSalle County. In 1880 he sold out his interests in that county, and, settling in Sunbury Township, bought 160 acres of land on Section 21. Mr. Hadley died January 19, 1907, and his wife on January 31, 1888. Mr. Hadley was a man of prominence in the township, a good citizen and a prosperous farmer.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Davis rented the Hadley farm on Section 21, and for twenty years managed it successfully. He added eighty acres to his original 160 acres, and the farm which he now owns contains 240 acres. He carries a good grade of all kinds of stock, and prefers the Norman horses and Poland-China hogs. He has sixteen head of the best grade of high bred horses. He has made many improvements on the land, and the residence and barns are substantial and comfortable. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had the following children: Clyde, born September 20, 1888; Milford, born May 3, 1892; Donald and Raymond, twins, born August 5, 1897 (Raymond died in infancy), and Fred, born April 30, 1900. For twenty-four years, Mr. Davis has been one of the thrifty and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers of Sunbury Township, and his success is due to energy and hard work. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America of Blackstone. Like his father, he is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church of Blackstone.

DAY, Charles B., practical plumber, tinner and steam-fitter, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. People who read in the newspapers about the encroachment of great corporations upon the general business of the country are often informed that the day of the young man who learns a trade, goes into business independently and prospers, is past. We are inclined to believe that the truth or falsity of this idea depends very much upon the kind of young man who may be under consideration. Everywhere young men of the right sort are making successes along this very line. One such is the practical mechanic and enterprising business man referred to above.

Charles B. Day was born near Wing, Livingston County, September 13, 1886, a son of Thomas, Jr., and Ann (Chambers) Day. Thomas Day, Jr., was born in Colmworth, Bedfordshire, England, September 22, 1837, a son of Thomas and Mary (Leeton) Day, members of very old English families, and both of whom died in their native land. Their son, Thomas Day, Jr., came to the United States in 1855, landing at New York, and came west as far as Paxton, Ford County, Ill. There he remained six months, then went to Cheney's Grove, McLean County. After working there by the month on a farm for a year, he went to Pennsylvania and engaged in lumbering. Returning to Illinois, he stopped

awhile in McLean County, whence in 1859 he set out for Pike's Peak on foot. By the time he had gone as far as St. Louis, his shoes had worn out and he bought a substantial pair of boots in which to continue his arduous journey. When he had covered a long trail beyond St. Louis, he met returning "overlanders" who had such dismal stories to tell him that he was disheartened and turned back. When he had gone east as far as Wahaunsee, Kan., he stopped there for a time and pre-empted eighty acres of land, using a land warrant issued to Benjamin Bisby that had been given him. He reached Illinois in due time and in 1861 enlisted in Company K, Third Illinois Cavalry. This regiment was composed of twelve companies from different parts of the State, and as originally organized, included 1433 officers and men. It took part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Haines's Bluff, Arkansas Post, Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, etc., and in the siege of Vicksburg. In July, 1864, a large portion of the regiment veteranized by re-enlistment and the remainder was mustered out of the service. Mr. Day, after three years and one month's service as a private, was honorably discharged September 5, 1864. Returning to Livingston County, he bought and soon sold forty acres of land; then located in Saunemin Township on eighty acres, which he had bought some time before. Eventually he sold this and in 1879 bought 160 acres in Pleasant Ridge Township. On August 29, 1865, he married Miss Ann Chambers, who was born at Lincoln, Lincolnshire, England, April 11, 1849, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Nutt) Chambers, who were of English descent through long lines of ancestors. In 1854, when she was about five years old, she was brought to America by her parents, who settled in Saunemin Township. Mr. and Mrs. Day had two daughters and three sons. Annie is the wife of Harry Conner of Symerton; George W., a carpenter lives at Los Angeles, Cal. Aaron T. is operating the old home farm near Wing, Livingston; Martha is the wife of John Dremouth of Custer Park, Ill.; Charles B. is the immediate subject of this sketch. Mr. Day, who was a good farmer and stockman, was very successful and did not leave the farm until 1900, when he bought a good home in Fairbury where he died October 17, 1906, and where his widow still lives. In politics he was a Republican, but while he took a deep interest in national and local affairs, he had no political aspirations. He was an enthusiastic Grand Army man and a member of Post No. 75 at Fairbury. He was, as is Mrs. Day, a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The youngest child of his parents, Charles B. Day, spent his boyhood on his father's farm, attending district schools and later the public school at Fairbury, until the spring of 1903. Then, equipped with a good fundamental education and a definite purpose in life, he entered the employ of Niergarth & Donnelly at Gridley, Ill., to learn the trade of plumber, tinner and steam-fitter. After a year, he came to Fairbury, where for three months he was employed as

clerk and delivery boy in the grocery store of W. J. Bethard. For a year after that he was employed by J. K. Schick, a plumber, tinner and steam-fitter, under whose instructions he made considerable progress in the acquisition of his trade. In 1905 he went to Watseka, Ill., where he had more practical experience as plumber, tinner and steam fitter in the hardware store of Bonham & Carman. From January to March, 1906, he was at St. Louis taking a special trade course in a plumbing school. Returning to Watseka, he worked at his trade with his old employer, Mr. Bonham, until in the following November when he came back to Fairbury. In June, 1907, he took charge of the plumbing, tinner's and steam-heating department of the Walton Brothers Company, in which responsible position he gave his employers complete satisfaction. In January, 1908, he bought the entire plumbing, tinner's and steam-heating department of the Walton Brothers and is continuing the enterprise on an independent basis with much success. In January, 1909, he became the owner of the plumbing and steam-heating concern of W. A. Kessler, of Fairbury.

Mr. Day began his apprenticeship to his trade at a salary of eight dollars a month and his board. He was not then seeking wages but an opportunity to learn. After the second year of his apprenticeship he was paid five dollars a week without board, and after that his wages were steadily increased with his knowledge of his trade and his earning capacity. He has never ceased to study his trade and he has the useful habit of being particular about his work. In his leisure moments he reads such books as promise to aid him in his business. He has fitted up many of the best houses in Fairbury and in the country round about. Equally expert as plumber, tinner, steam-fitter and metal roofer, he is ready at any time to assume any contract in either of these lines and gives especial attention to steel and metal roofing and ceiling work, offering to guarantee anything that he does. He has on hand at all times a full line of plumbing, tinnings and heating stock adapted to any work for which he may receive an order, and is now devoting his attention to that line of business.

On January 7, 1909, Mr. Day was united in marriage with Miss Verna Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Carter. Politically he is a Republican. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is identified with the Royal Neighbors and the Modern Woodmen of America.

DE BUTTS, Clarence E., Superintendent of the Pontiac (Ill.) school system, and one of the most prominent and efficient educators in Central Illinois, was born at Adeline, Ogle County, Ill., October 26, 1865, a son of Enos and Hester (Middlekauff) De Butts, natives of Maryland. His father, a farmer by occupation, came to Illinois among the early settlers, locating in Ogle County, and there formed an acquaintance with Hester Middlekauff, resulting in their mar-

riage. In course of time they moved to Marshalltown, Ia., which is the present place of residence of his father, his mother having died in December, 1907. They became the parents of six children, all of whom are living. In early youth, Clarence E. De Butts attended the common schools of Adeline, Ill., and completed his education in Cornell College, at Mount Vernon, Ia., from which institution he was graduated in 1885, with the degree of B. Ph., his alma mater conferring that of A. M. upon him in 1888. He taught school previous to his matriculation, and also at intervals during the course of study. His first term as a teacher in Illinois was spent in Eppards Point Township, Livingston County. In 1886 he became principal of the village school at Cornell, Ill., continuing thus two years. From 1889 to 1891, he acted in the capacity of Principal of the Pontiac High School; and from 1891 until 1894, held the position of Principal of schools at Odell, Livingston County. On the expiration of this period he returned to Pontiac as instructor in the township high school, serving as such until 1897. Following this he was Superintendent of Schools in Fairbury, Ill., until 1902, and from that year until 1905, Principal of the Pontiac Township High School. From 1905 until the present writing he has also held the office of Superintendent of the city schools of Pontiac. Beginning in 1902, he acted as instructor in the Department of Physics in the Illinois State Normal University, during the summer terms, also doing work as Institute Instructor throughout the State. Mr. De Butts is a member of the National Educational Association, of the Illinois State Teachers' Association, and the Central Illinois Teachers' Association, of which latter body he has been President.

In 1888, Mr. De Butts was united in marriage with Katharine Jamison, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Simon and Mary (Cline) Jamison, natives of Ohio, who came to this part of Illinois at an early period. The father of Mrs. De Butts was a well known farmer, and a prominent citizen, taking an active part in local affairs. Two children resulted from this union, namely: Cary E., who graduated from the Pontiac High School in 1907, and Deam Jamison.

In politics, Mr. De Butts is a supporter of the Republican party, and fraternally is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his wife, a woman of much intelligence and amiable character also belongs.

DEMOSS, Henry Boyd, a very successful stock-raiser and farmer of Avoca Township, is one of the representative agriculturists of Livingston County, and an authority upon all matters pertaining to his life-work. His farm of 141 acres of excellent land is pleasantly located on Section 25, Avoca Township, where he was born December 30, 1864, and he is a son of the late Henry De Moss whose biographical record appears elsewhere in this book. Educated in the public schools of his township, Mr. De Moss has made



Geo H. Kerrins

it his home and, from the time he was old enough to be of use he has worked upon the farm, thus early learning the details of what was to become his life occupation. Observation and experience have confirmed him in his conviction that registered stock is a paying investment, and he therefore raises no other. His preference is for Hereford stock, and he has a good herd. His bull is one of the finest in the county, Mr. De Moss having bought the animal from A. C. Huckley, a breeder of national fame. Mr. De Moss believes that the Hereford stock makes better beef, is gentler in disposition and is more satisfactory in every way. These ideas are not simply the result of individual effort, but formulated after careful study of various grades and breeds at the stock-shows of which he is an enthusiastic attendant, fully believing it to be the duty of every progressive stockman and farmer to patronize such exhibitions. He not only attends, but also makes displays of his products and, at the State Fair at Springfield in 1900, took second and third prizes on corn. He was one of the exhibitors of stock in the State Fair of 1908. By exhibiting and attending these agricultural shows, comparing notes with others and reading the papers devoted to farming and stock-raising, he has kept thoroughly abreast of the times and is, without doubt, the most advanced farmer of Avoca Township. It is his contention that white corn produces more bushels to the acre than yellow, and he raises no other.

On January 9, 1889, Mr. De Moss was married to Miss Rosa Norman, who was born in Avoca Township, October 9, 1867, her parents being pioneers of this locality, whose biographical record appears on another page in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. De Moss are the parents of two children, namely: a daughter who died in infancy; George, born November 12, 1894, and who will graduate from the Fairbury High School in 1909. Politically Mr. De Moss is a Democrat, although liberal in his views. For eighteen years he has been School Director of District No. 146, and many of the improvements in the public school system now in force in the township have been advocated by him. Successful, enterprising and energetic, genial in manner and public-spirited in action, Mr. De Moss is one of the popular men of Avoca Township.

DE MOSS, Henry J. (deceased), who is numbered among the pioneers of Livingston County, and who was largely instrumental in developing the natural resources of this locality, died September 10, 1905, leaving behind him the memory of his many good deeds and the result of his efforts to benefit his community and fellowmen. The birth of Mr. De Moss occurred in 1830 in Highland County, Ohio, and he was a son of James and Margaret (Nace) De Moss, who were also natives of Ohio. James De Moss was of French ancestry, while the maternal side of the house was of German origin. The father of James, also named James, was born in France, and when but two years of age was brought to the United States by his parents. They settled

near Cicero, Ind. Ten years later, in 1840, they moved to a farm about six miles southeast of Pontiac, Ill., and from there a few years later, to a farm one mile north of the old town-site of Avoca, where the second James passed his life. This farm was later sold to Daniel Street. James De Moss, the second, died in 1852, and his widow in 1863. They had eleven children, eight of whom lived to maturity and reared families, namely: Henry J., John, Alexander, Eleanor, Maria, who married Daniel Street, and Emma who married Wiley Sparks. By trade James De Moss was a wheelwright, and he followed this occupation the greater part of his life, leaving the farming in the hands of his sons. He erected and put in the machinery for the first mill established in Pontiac, and built the seats for the first court house there. He was a man of great energy, of integrity and one in whom every confidence was placed, and when he passed away, Livingston County lost one of its best citizens.

Henry J. De Moss, now deceased, was brought upon the homestead and, because of the pressure of farm work, had but few educational advantages, although he did attend the district school several terms. He remained on the home farm until his marriage, which took place in the spring of 1851, when he married Miss Mary J. Popejoy, who was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., September 27, 1832, a daughter of Nathan and Mary (Gregory) Popejoy, natives of Kentucky and Ohio, respectively. In November, 1832, when Mrs. De Moss was only six weeks old, her parents settled on a farm which later became the property of Philip Rollins. This farm is east of Pontiac and is now very valuable. From there they moved to Section 25 in Avoca Township, where Mrs. Popejoy died in 1846, and her husband a year later.

Mr. and Mrs. De Moss had children as follows: Levi, a farmer in Pleasant Ridge Township; Theodore, of Michigan; Maggie, who married Lucius S. Carter, a farmer of Avoca Township; Edward of Fairbury; Isadora who married Edward Skinner of Fairbury, and Henry Boyd. In politics Henry J. De Moss was a Democrat and upon occasion responded to the demands of his fellow citizens and filled various township offices, giving entire satisfaction as a public official. His standard of living was high and raised according to the teachings of Christianity, and he died firm in his religious faith. His faithful wife died in April, 1889, and he never fully recovered from the loss.

DILLON, Edwin (deceased), who passed away on May 4, 1908, firm in the faith of the Christian church, was born October 19, 1839, in Tazewell County, a son of Daniel and Ruth (Hoskins) Dillon. Daniel Dillon was born in North Carolina in 1802 and, two years later, was brought by his parents to Ohio, and in 1816 several families went to Illinois and settled in Tazewell County, where he remained until 1855, at which time he located on a farm in what was then Delavan Prairie in Mason County, Ill., where he lived until his death in 1885. He was a Quaker and,

as one of the preachers of the Society of Friends, lived up to his simple faith. Of his family, Jane died in childhood; Emily, married Z. B. Kidder and moved to Russell County, Kan.; Caroline and Catherine were twins, of whom the former married Edward Lyons, a farmer of Mason County, and they had three children; while Catherine married R. B. Summers and went to Kansas; Mary married Abner Summers and died in Sullivan County, Mo., in 1882, leaving four children; Daniel married and went to Peoria, followed carpentering and had four children; Lorenzo married, settled in San Jose, Mason County, and had four children; Annie married William Kent, lived at Florence Kan.; George died in Mason County in 1851, aged ten years; Edwin was the youngest. Mrs. Dillon, a sweet and lovely woman, died in Mason County, Ill., in 1857, firm in the Quaker faith.

Edward Dillon was educated in the common schools and made his home with his father until he attained his majority, when he commenced farming for himself, thus continuing until the period of the Civil War. Under the call for volunteers he enlisted in Company H., One Hundred and Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. This regiment was organized at Peoria, Ill., and mustered into service August 28, 1862, and took part in the first expedition against Vicksburg, and in the battle of Arkansas Post, where 7,000 prisoners were captured. In the Union defeat at Guntown, Miss., where 2,500 Union soldiers were captured, the army was rendered almost destitute and during the 140 mile march there was only one round of rations. Owing to exposure and hardships, Mr. Dillon was afflicted with inflammation of the eyes which became chronic and he lost one eye in 1864. He was first sent to a field hospital, but after remaining there for some time was transported to the hospital at Springfield where he remained until he was honorably discharged in August, 1865, when he returned to Mason County and resumed his occupation as a farmer.

In 1860, at the age of twenty-one years, he married Elizabeth Wakefield, a native of Pennsylvania, who came with her parents, Robert and Martha (Clark) Wakefield, to Mason County. She had two brothers: Clark and James. In 1867 Mr. Dillon settled on Section 35, Eppards Point Township, and on this farm there was a very little improvement, it being nearly all waste land and a good deal of it inundated. A strong believer in tiling, he began draining his land and put in over 600 rods of tile. Being a practical farmer he knew how to get the best out of his land, and raised corn and small grains in large quantities. Mr. Dillon had the satisfaction of living to see his fertile land well improved, erected a beautiful home on it, and there lived until 1893, when he retired to Fairbury where he had built a fine residence in which his wife still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon had these children: Clark and Edwin who died in infancy; Alida S., born July 11, 1865, in Mason County, became the wife of George B. Killbury, a resident of Piper City, Ill., and they have two children,—Edith and

Morris; Oscar O., whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume; Edith, born June 22, 1869, married A. C. Monroe of Piper City, and they had four children,—Esther, Clark, Ruth and Raymond, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon raised Mabel Fultz, who was born March 3, 1884, and married Fred. Conn, a resident of Fairbury, and they have two children, Vesta and Cecil. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon were reared in the Quaker faith, but there not being any of their belief in their vicinity, they united with the Christian church and have supported it generously. The death of Mr. Dillon is still so recent that his family have not yet become reconciled to his loss, and mourn him very tenderly.

In National matters, Mr. Dillon was a Republican, but locally he supported the Prohibition candidates. He was a member of the G. A. R., in which he took an active interest; was also a Mason, and stood high in that order.

DILLON, Oscar O., a successful farmer and representative citizen of Livingston County, living on his well cultivated farm on Section 35, Eppards Point Township, was born on this same farm October 27, 1867, a son of Edwin Dillon, now deceased, who was for many years a leading man in the County, and was among the pioneers of the State. (His biography appears elsewhere in this volume.) The school days of Oscar Dillon began in what was then called the Lakeside School District from the fact that it was in the swamp, although now the land is in a high state of cultivation through the inauguration of the system of tiling so prevalent. After completing his course here, he attended the Dixon Business College, and from there went to the Eureka Business College, from which he was graduated in the Class of 1890. Being an only son, Mr. Dillon did his full share of hard work, and the only time he has been away from the farm was when he attended school in Dixon and Eureka, so naturally he understands every detail of farming and is enabled to pursue successfully what has been his life task.

On December 22, 1892, Mr. Dillon married Miss Maude C. Martin, born on Section 1, Yates Township, McLean County, August 7, 1869, a daughter of William E. Martin, one of the highly respected farmers of that Township, whose biography appears on another page. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dillon took an extended honeymoon trip, but in the spring of 1893 they began farm work. When in the spring of 1893, Edwin Dillon left the farm to live retired in Fairbury, where he had built a handsome home, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Dillon took charge of the farm, where they have since resided and their children have been born, viz.: Gladys Elizabeth, born June 15, 1895, and Claud Martin, born September 8, 1898.

Mr. Dillon has paid special attention to breeding stock, and prefers the Norman and coach horses, Shorthorn cattle and Hampshire Down sheep, having a flock of twenty of the latter. He is always improving the grade of his cattle and his product finds ready market anywhere.

His farm lies in the great corn belt of Illinois, and he has great faith in the future of King Corn, believing that the time will come when the fertile lands of Illinois will be given over almost entirely to the production of this great food cereal. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Dillon has been instrumental in the organization of several business projects, was one of the first to take stock in the Independent Telephone Company, and one of the first to have a telephone put in his house, although there are now 125 subscribers on a circuit that covers twenty miles. During the early struggles of this company he was President, and is now Vice-President and did much to bring about its present prosperity and excellent service. He also was prime organizer of the Farmers Grain Company, better known as the Weston Grain Company, of which he was Director and Treasurer. He is also a member of the Co-operative Threshing Machine Company of Eppards Point Township, and has always used his influence and money to bring about improvements of every kind. In politics Mr. Dillon is a Republican, but has never sought political preferment, being too much occupied with business affairs, although he has ever been ready to represent his party as delegate to County and State Conventions. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Court of Honor No. 623 of Weston, Ill., and one of the Directors in the last named lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon are active members of the Christian church of Fairbury.

A practical farmer and stock raiser, an excellent business man, a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Dillon has faithfully performed his duty in every walk of life to which he has been called and has given his children every advantage, not only sending them to good schools, but having them carefully trained in both vocal and instrumental music, in which he has been ably seconded by Mrs. Dillon, who is a fine musician and who, for some years prior to her marriage, was a teacher of music. Their home is a delightful one and their numerous friends meet with a gracious hospitality whenever they enter the Dillon home.

DOHERTY, John J.—Good birth and breeding, practical studentship and thorough dependability have elevated John J. Doherty to financial and general prominence in Dwight, where he was born January 12, 1875, and where he now is known as one of the organizers and the Cashier of the First National Bank. As his name indicates, Mr. Doherty is of Irish ancestry, his parents, Michael and Mary (Cooney) Doherty, having been born in Ireland, the former in County Kilkenny, and the latter in County Wexford. Michael and Mary Doherty were married in their native land, and eventually lived for some years in Australia, where Mr. Doherty was engaged in various kinds of mining. He arrived in McLean County, Ill., in 1870, and for three years was engaged in the railroad shops of the county, locating then in Dwight, where he continued his former occupation, and where his death

occurred January 11, 1899. He is survived by his wife who still lives in Dwight.

The banker of Dwight owes his preliminary education to the public schools, and at the age of seventeen years was appointed Assistant Postmaster under President Cleveland, serving in that capacity from 1894 until 1898. In the latter year larger recognition of his reliability was forthcoming in his appointment to the position of Assistant Cashier of the Bank of Dwight. In 1905 he became one of the organizers and the Cashier of the First National Bank, which position he still maintains. Mr. Doherty is a Democrat in politics, a Catholic in religion, and fraternally is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, of Dwight, and the Knights of Columbus. He is unmarried and lives with his mother.

DOOLITTLE, James Scott.—The veteran of the Civil War today is an object of veneration to the younger generation, for in him is embodied all the heroic characteristics of which men like to hear. It was given to him to make a great sacrifice, to risk his life to prove his patriotism, and all honor is due him. It took no small amount of courage for those brave boys of 1861 and 1865 to leave their homes and go against the enemy, and they should be given all credit that they did not shrink back, but stood by their country in her hour of need.

Livingston County, Ill., is the home of many of these veterans, who, returning from the battlefields, resumed the peaceful occupations of ordinary life and rounded out their days with business duties faithfully discharged. Among them is James Scott Doolittle, of Chatsworth, Ill., now retired from business cares. Mr. Doolittle was born at St. Marys, Camden County, Ga., December 9, 1828, a son of Alfred and Martha (Scott) Doolittle, the former born at Vergennes, Vt., in October, 1800, while his wife was born in Georgia in 1803. Alfred Doolittle came of a good old English family, which is traced back to the sixteenth century, his wife being of Scotch ancestry. When James Doolittle was five years old he lost his mother, and some years later the father re-married. His father was in a general merchandising business, manufactured cotton-gins and was postmaster at St. Marys, Ga., for some years, but in 1848 he moved to Springfield, Mass., where he engaged in the manufacture of flour. In October, 1851, he came to Ottawa, Ill., with his entire family and began farming.

James Doolittle was educated in the common schools and academy at St. Marys, and he assisted his father in the store and postoffice, when not in school. When they moved to Springfield, Mass., he served an apprenticeship, and worked as a machinist until the removal to Ottawa, Ill., when he resumed his work at his trade. After his marriage in 1856, he began farming, being thus engaged until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted. He was appointed Fourth Sergeant of the One Hundred and Fourth

Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Col. Moore of Ottawa, Ill., and was mustered in at Ottawa. He served about one year, when he was discharged for disability incurred during his period of service. In 1865 he removed to an unimproved farm four miles south of Chatsworth, which he improved and put under cultivation. In 1873 he located in the village of Chatsworth, where he engaged in the dry-goods and grocery business, which he continued for seven years. At the expiration of that period he embarked in the furniture and undertaking business, and after twenty years in that line, retired in 1904.

Mr. Doolittle is a Democrat in political opinions, and has served very acceptably as a member of the Board of Education of Chatsworth for five years, as member of the Village Council for two years, as Township Collector eight years, and as Assessor for three years. He has always been interested in all public measures which appeared likely to prove beneficial to his community, and has always been a loyal and true citizen. Mr. Doolittle is a Presbyterian in religious faith and belongs to the Church of that denomination at Chatsworth.

On June 3, 1856, Mr. Doolittle was married at Ottawa, Ill., to Jemima Emerson Armstrong, born in Ottawa, Ill., March 27, 1837. She is a grand-daughter of Joseph Armstrong a native of Ireland, who came with his nine sons to Licking County, Ohio, in 1811, from Somerset County, Pa. His son, William E. Armstrong father of Mrs. Doolittle was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 25, 1814, came to Illinois with the rest of the family in 1831, and died November 1, 1850. He was a very prominent man, serving for many years as Sheriff of Grundy County which he had helped to organize, and was one of its first settlers. He married Sarah Ann Strawn, daughter of Joel Strawn, a brother of Jacob Strawn, the "cattle king" of Illinois. The Armstrongs and Strawns were very well known all through the State, and owned and developed a vast tract of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle have had the following children: Frank W., born July 3, 1857; William A., born October 29, 1859; Alfred, born November 12, 1861; Emma A., born November 7, 1874, and Mary I., born January 31, 1877.

DOUGHAM, John, a resident of Livingston County, Ill., for thirty-one years, and recognized as one of the most thorough and thrifty farmers in Union Township, is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in the city of Cleveland, on May 18, 1856. He is a son of Patrick and Mary (Whalen) Dougham, both of whom were of Irish nativity. His father, who followed farming for a livelihood, came to the United States about the year 1848, locating in New York City, where he remained three years. While living there he met Mary Whalen, and their acquaintance led to marriage. Shortly after this event they moved to Cleveland, Ohio, spending three years there, and going thence to Willoughby, Ohio, which was their place of residence until 1868. In that year they changed their

location to LaSalle County, Ill., settling on a farm near Ottawa, and after living there until 1876, made their home in Livingston County. The father bought a farm of 160 acres in Union Township, on which he put up all the improvements, and to which he added by successive purchases, until at the time of his death he was the owner of 278 acres. He departed this life July 10, 1906, his wife having passed away in 1898. Both were devout members of the Catholic church. In politics, Patrick Dougham was an adherent of the Democratic party. He was a careful and successful farmer, and an honest and worthy man. John Dougham was brought up on the home farm, and received his education in the common schools. He has always been a farmer, and now owns 160 acres of the homestead property, on which he carries on general farming, devoting considerable attention to raising stock.

On October 2, 1891, Mr. Dougham was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Mary Lyons, who was born in Livingston County, and is a daughter of Thomas and Ellen (Murphey) Lyons. The parents of Mrs. Dougham settled in the county at an early period. Further particulars in relation to them are contained in a biographical record of Stephen Lyons appearing in this connection. Seven children have resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dougham, as follows: Mary, Thomas, Joseph, Stephen, Edward, Johnnie and Ella. The eldest of these, Mary, is pursuing a course of study in the Odell High School.

In political matters, Mr. Dougham is on the side of the Democratic party. He and his worthy wife are members of the Catholic church.

DUSTIN, William G., who has gained an enviable reputation throughout Central Illinois in connection with his successful newspaper enterprises, is more familiarly known to the people of Dwight, Livingston County, as their efficient Postmaster under three national administrations. Mr. Dustin is a native of the State of Vermont, where he was born in Orange County, June 7, 1850. His father and mother, Daniel and Isabel (Tatlin) Dustin, were also Vermonters by birth. The latter died while William G. Dustin was an infant, and in course of time the former was married again. In 1858 the father moved with his family to Illinois, locating in Sycamore, De Kalb County. Daniel Dustin was a prominent citizen of his locality, having been a distinguished officer of the Civil War, in which he served four years and six months. During this period he rose to the rank of Brigadier General, and had command of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Army Corps. Gen. Dustin died March 29, 1882. At the time of his decease he held the office of Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, having been appointed to this position by President Harrison, of whom he was a personal friend while both were in the army. In politics, Gen. Dustin was a staunch Republican, and was incumbent in several county offices in De Kalb County at various times, being



W. A. Kessler,

invariably elected without opposition. In early youth William G. Dustin attended the common schools and the Sycamore High School, and at the age of fourteen years, accompanied his father to the scenes of war, spending a year and a half with him at the front a period which included the Atlanta campaign. Some years afterward he learned the trade of printer, and in 1889 moved to Livingston County, Ill., where he was employed for one year in the office of the *Dwight Star and Herald*. He then purchased a half-interest in the paper continuing in this partnership until 1898. In that year he bought the remaining half-interest, and conducted the business alone until 1905, when he sold one-third interest to A. S. Holbrook, who is his present partner. In 1905 the firm installed in the establishment some of the latest devices in printing, among them being electric dynamos for running the presses, new machinery, type etc. The Company not only prints the *Star and Herald* but also publishes the *Dwight Journal*, *Reddick Journal*, *Cardiff Journal* and *Campus Journal*. Besides these, Mr. Dustin is the editor and publisher of *The Banner*, the official organ of the *Sons of Veterans*, which has reached a monthly circulation of 37,500 copies. Mr. Dustin is a member of the National Press Association, the Illinois State Press Association and the Republican Press Association.

Politically, Mr. Dustin is a pronounced Republican, and wields a strong influence in the local councils of his party. He was appointed to the office of postmaster of Dwight by President McKinley in 1898, was re-appointed twice by President Roosevelt, and has discharged the duties of the office with signal ability and fidelity, and to the entire satisfaction of the people of the town. He has never had any opposition for appointment. In fraternal circles, Mr. Dustin is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, Sons of Veterans, Court of Honor, and other orders.

EDWARDS, Thomas Henry.—In the passing of Thomas Henry Edwards, December 26, 1891, Livingston County was called upon to review the life of a man who had supplied an element of practical need, and had set an example of patient endeavor. Mr. Edwards was a man of better education and, therefore, of larger resource than the average farmer, and he saw clearly and adopted wisely the opportunities by which he was surrounded. Born on a farm in Peoria County, Ill., January 1, 1845, he represented one of the very earliest families in that part of the State, his parents, Edward D. and Susan (Snyvely) Edwards, having gone there when it was a wilderness of unbroken desolation. The elder Edwards was born in Cold Stream, Hampshire County, Va., son of Thomas Edwards, a soldier in the War of 1812. Thomas Edwards was a farmer in early life, and later operated a saw-mill on the river bank near what is now the foot of Fayette Street, Peoria, Ill.

Thomas Henry Edwards was educated in the public schools of Peoria County and at the Hed-

ding College, Abingdon, this State. He was twenty years of age when, on February 14, 1865, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil War, and until his honorable discharge at Columbus, Ga., in February, 1866, was engaged in patrol duty. At the end of hostilities he returned to Peoria County and worked on the home farm until his marriage, March 11, 1869, to Virginia Wolford, a native of Hampshire County, Va., and born April 24, 1845. Mrs. Edwards is a daughter of George and Nancy (Loy) Wolford, and granddaughter of Adam and Sally (Hyat) Loy, natives of Virginia. The Wolford family came to Peoria County in the fall of 1865, and thereafter engaged in farming with moderate success. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards settled on an 80-acre tract in Cottonwood Township, Peoria County, and in 1882 sold this farm and bought 160 acres in Owego, and forty-five acres in Pontiac Township, Livingston County, where they engaged in general farming and stock-raising on a large scale. Mr. Edwards thoroughly understood his business, was always seeking better ways of doing his work, and was considered one of the most scientific and practical farmers in the townships where he lived. His life drew to a close while yet his powers were at their height, and when there seemed much more for him to accomplish in the natural order of things. His forty-six years were well directed and useful ones, however, and the family he left behind sustain, and even enhance, the standard of usefulness so laboriously maintained by former bearers of the name. He was a member of the Methodist church. Of his children, Edward D. is a resident of Rothsay, Minn.; George H. is a merchant of Pontiac; Thomas J. lives in Kansas City; James H. lives on the home farm; Benjamin F. is a farmer of Livingston County; Augie G. is a teacher in the Pontiac schools; Quincy A. lives with his mother; and Leslie died at the age of two years. In April, 1900, Mrs. Edwards erected a fine modern residence on South Mill Street, Pontiac, and since has lived there with her two youngest children.

EGGENBERGER, David, a well known and much respected farmer of Union Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he has followed his chosen occupation for nearly thirty-five years, was born in Switzerland, May 30, 1846, a son of John and Cofra (Striker) Eggenberger, both of whom were of Swiss nativity. The father followed farming for a livelihood, owning a farm in his native country. There he pursued the even tenor of his way, living a simple, quiet and uneventful life until 1865, when, together with his entire family except the mother, he came to the United States. The latter had passed away in 1854. Proceeding directly to Illinois, the family made a brief sojourn in Peoria, moving thence to Odell, where John Eggenberger spent his days in retirement from active pursuits until the time of his death in 1891. He and his wife were the parents of nine sons. Of these,

two died in infancy and four are still living. The father and mother were members of the Zwinglian branch of the Reformed church. David Eggenberger received his education in the common schools of his native land, and made himself useful on the home farm until he reached the age of nineteen years, when he accompanied the rest of the family to the United States. After moving to Livingston County he followed farming for some years on rented land, but in 1874, bought a farm of eighty acres in Union Township. This place is still his property, and he is also the owner of some land in Ohio. For several years he was a breeder of Percheron horses and Brown Swiss cattle, but now devotes but little attention to stock-raising.

The marriage of Mr. Eggenberger took place in 1873, Lizetta Slingman becoming his wife on September 1st, of that year. Mrs. Eggenberger was born in Peru, LaSalle County, Ill., a daughter of Adolph and Caroline Slingman, natives of Germany. Her parents were old settlers in LaSalle County, coming to this country in the 'fifties, and establishing their home in Peru, Ill., shortly after arriving in the United States. Both are deceased. The occupation of Adolph Slingman was that of a wagon-maker, and he bore the reputation of an industrious and honest man. Four children resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Eggenberger, as follows: Adolph a resident of Chicago, who married Minnie Wickler, and is the father of five children; Frederick, who died in infancy; Fred, who was educated in the Pontiac High School; and Florian.

Politically, Mr. Eggenberger is a Republican on national issues, but on local questions, acts independently. The family attend religious worship at the Lutheran church, to which the father is a liberal contributor.

ELLINGWOOD, Charles Victor, M. D., whose reputation for ability and skill in the medical profession extends throughout Livingston County, Ill., and who has also figured prominently in connection with the civic affairs of Chatsworth, was born at Eastport, Washington County, Maine, October 12, 1858, a son of Capt. Marshal A. and Matilda (Pendleton) Ellingwood, the former of Grand Menan Island, and the latter of Deer Isle, on the coast of Maine. The father was a seaman by occupation, and at the age of nineteen years, became captain of a merchant vessel. His wife often accompanied him on his voyages, visiting England, France and other foreign countries. In 1870 Capt. Ellingwood located at Whitewater, Wis., where he followed farming, finally retiring from active business, and dying in 1898. Since his decease his widow has made her home at Chatsworth with her son, Dr. Ellingwood. One other son, Clarence, was born to their union, who spent his life in Whitewater, Wis., dying in 1904.

In early youth, Charles V. Ellingwood attended the district and High Schools and the Whitewater Normal School, afterwards learning telegraphy and becoming an operator in that line. Continuing in this occupation until 1885,

he then entered the Bennett Medical College, of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1887. On August 9th, of that year, he happened to be in Chatsworth, the day before the memorable wreck on the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad, at that point. It was by mere chance that he was in the Village at the time of that disaster, being simply on a visit to his old friend, Dr. Vaughan. He was at once pressed into active service, however, in caring for the suffering victims of the catastrophe, and this occasion led to his making the place his permanent residence. For a week after the wreck he was in almost constant attendance upon the injured, his skill and assiduity being warmly commended. The experience thus gained proved of great value to him in his subsequent practice. At a later period (1895), he took a post-graduate course in the Polyclinic Hospital, Chicago.

On September 23, 1883, Dr. Ellingwood was married to Fannie A. Bentley, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of Henry J. Bentley, who settled in that State at an early day, going there from New York. The father of Mrs. Ellingwood moved from Michigan to Wisconsin when she was a child, and died at Chatsworth in 1905. Two children were the issue of this union, namely: Lulu A., who was educated in St. Mary's College, of Notre Dame University, and became the wife of Frederick Walrich, a merchant at Piper City, Ill.; and Jennie, who is now a student in the same institution.

Dr. Ellingwood has acquired an extensive practice in Chatsworth and its environs. Politically, he is a Republican, and was for two years a member of the Board of Village Trustees, and for nine years, of the Board of Education, serving as President of that body three years. He has been Secretary of the Livingston County Board of Pension Examiners. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Consistory, and Mystic Shrine, and Kankakee Lodge No. 627 B. P. O. E.; also Livingston Lodge No. 264. Knights of Pythias; is a member of the American Medical Association; the Association of Railroad Surgeons; is also a member of the Illinois State Medical Society and the Livingston County Medical Society; is a member of the Illinois Athletic Club of Chicago, and the Chicago Automobile Club. Dr. Ellingwood is local surgeon for the Illinois Central Railroad.

FARLEY, Job J. (deceased).—The thirteen years which have elapsed since the death of Job J. Farley, January 9, 1895, have not sufficed to dim the remembrance of his many admirable traits of character, and of his successful struggle against odds as an agriculturist in Henry and Livingston Counties, Ill. Mr. Farley carried with him to the end of his life the traits of his English forefathers, the majority of whom were engaged in farming and were sturdy examples of the conservative yeomanry of England, where in Wiltshire Job J. Farley was born September

16, 1829. In his youth the lad had very meager educational or other advantages, principally owing to the fact that he was obliged to face the problem of self-support when others of his age were immured in the school room, or in a kind of labor that permitted them leisure to pursue their growing inclinations. Eventually he arrived in the great city of London, where his fine physical proportions and practical common sense gained him entrance to that brave body of men known as the London police.

In 1856 Mr. Farley uprooted himself from the life of London, and emigrated to the United States, where, in Knox County, Ill., he rented a farm for about three years. Eventually he owned land in Knox County, and in 1876 bought 160 acres in Eppards Point Township, Livingston County, adding thereto 240 acres in 1882. In the meantime he had lived fifteen years in Henry County, Ill., there owning eighty acres, which he sold in 1882 and located on the farm of 240 acres. The latter was improved at the time of purchase, but he added much to its general equipment, and it today is owned by his family, being considered one of the desirable properties of the county. The 160-acre farm he improved from raw prairie, spending several years and much laborious effort to reduce it to a high state of cultivation. He amassed a competence in general farming and stock-raising, and was considered one of the best farmers and business men in the community. Wide-awake to all of the interests of his locality he took a keen interest in Democratic politics, and for several years was Commissioner in Henry County. Previous to coming to the United States he was baptized into the Episcopal church. His parents, Nias and Mary (Selwood) Farley, were devout members of the Baptist church. Mr. Farley now sleeps in Payne's cemetery.

The devoted wife who survives Mr. Farley, formerly was Elizabeth Walker, daughter of James and Mary (Smith) Walker, and granddaughter of James Walker and Edward and Hannah (Fletcher) Smith. Mrs. Farley was born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, April 17, 1836, and lost her mother when three years old and her father when she was eleven. Thereafter she lived with her step-mother until the latter's death, when the girl had arrived at eighteen years. Mrs. Farley had ambitions beyond the average of her sex or years, and in 1855 came to America alone, where she was met by a brother who brought her to Altoona, Knox County, Ill., where she lived until her marriage. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Farley, Urias W. is engaged in the real-estate and insurance business in Zion City, Ill.; Ida J. is the wife of Edward Folsom, living on the old home place; Mary E. is the wife of Charles H. Moffett, also on the old Farley farm; Anna is the wife of W. T. S. Myers, and lives on the old place; Arthur J. is a business man of Chenoa, Ill.; and John J. died in infancy.

FEINHOLD, Charles A., an energetic and successful farmer of Owego Township, Livingston

County, Ill., and well known to all the residents of the township in which he owns 500 acres of choice land, was born in La Salle County, Ill., on September 14, 1861, a son of William and Caroline (Miller) Feinhold, natives of Germany. William Feinhold was born in 1832, a son of John and Mary (Thomas) Feinhold, Germans by nativity, who came to the United States in 1853, settling in La Salle County, Ill., whence, in 1864, they moved to Livingston County. The grandfather Feinhold bought eighty acres of land in Owego Township, and on this place he and his wife spent their last days. William Feinhold, the father of Charles A., received his education in the public schools of Germany. From the time of his arrival in Illinois until advancing years caused him to abandon active exertion, he followed farming, and was a breeder of high-grade stock. He acquired, by successive purchases, 996 acres of land, which he has distributed among the children, with the exception of 160 acres, retained for himself. His marriage with Caroline Miller took place December 31, 1857, and her death occurred in 1903. To them were born six children, all of whom are living, and all have families except Augusta, who keeps house for her father. He is an adherent of the Lutheran faith, as was his wife. In politics, he has always been a Republican.

Charles A. Feinhold was about three years old when brought to Livingston County by his parents. He grew up on the home farm, obtaining his education in the common schools. Ever since reaching years of maturity, he has successfully carried on farming and stock-raising. His landed possession in Livingston County comprises 500 acres and he is classed as one of the leading farmers of his locality.

On February 26, 1889, Mr. Feinhold was joined in matrimony with Hattie Leister, born at Eppards Point, a daughter of William and Anna Leister, natives of Germany. The family of Mrs. Feinhold are Lutherans in religious belief. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Feinhold, namely: William, Harry and Clara.

In politics, Mr. Feinhold is an active supporter of the Republican party, and holds the office of Township Commissioner in which he has served for several years. He was the first farmer who bought an automobile in his township.

FERITER, Patrick, than whom no more worthy or industrious farmer can be found in Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, Ill.; a man who, by diligent and persevering labor, has accumulated a handsome competency, and is respected by all who know him, was born in La Salle County, Ill., April 1, 1841, a son of William and Mary (Feriter) Feriter, natives of County Kerry, Ireland. On emigrating to America in 1830, William Feriter landed in Nova Scotia, and afterwards walked 500 miles through Canada, coming to the United States. His wife came to this country in 1835. They were married in Fall River, Mass., in June, 1837. Later the father bought 80 acres of land in LaSalle County, Ill., and in September following came to Chicago

by way of the lakes, proceeding thence to Ottawa, Ill., by team. For a time Mr. Feriter worked on the section of the Illinois and Michigan Canal between Ottawa and LaSalle, until the State's funds were exhausted, when the work was suspended. He then (1840) engaged for a time in railroad work, which later was also suspended, when he removed to Rockville, and there opened one of the first coal-banks in that vicinity. In 1850 he moved to Dimmick Township, LaSalle County, where he engaged in farming, and in 1857 bought eighty acres of land in that county, upon which he lived until 1868, whence he moved to Waldo Township, Livingston County, where he and his son Patrick bought 160 acres of land and later another tract of eighty acres. William Feriter died in 1872, his wife surviving him until 1906.

Patrick Feriter received a common school education in LaSalle County, and accompanied his parents to Livingston County, where, in 1867, he bought 160 acres of land in Waldo Township, later purchasing eighty acres more. This land he sold in 1891, purchasing another property of 120 acres, which he still owns, and to which he has added until he now has a fine property of 240 acres situated in the vicinity of the village of Graymont, where he follows general farming and raising stock.

Mr. Feriter was married April 12, 1868, to Helen Canada, and their union resulted in one child, Mary, who died at the age of twenty-seven years. The mother died in 1878, and on September 13, 1881, Mr. Feriter was united in marriage with Bridget McGraw, born in Chicago, a daughter of James and Anna (McGraw) McGraw. The following children were born to them: Anna and Thomas, deceased; James H., Catherine A., Margaretta E., Edward J., Berdella Ellen, Julia Theresa, Johanna Lucille, Patrick Francis, and Michael A.

In politics Mr. Feriter is a supporter of the Democratic party, and in religious faith he and his wife are devout Catholics. He is fraternally connected with the Knights of Columbus.

FETZER, Josiah M.—A resident of Avoca Township since 1876, Josiah Fetzer naturally has been very prominent in the reclaiming of the land from the swamp, and was one of the first to introduce tile into his 180-acre farm, thus changing unproductive fields into those on which the best of crops can be raised. Mr. Fetzer was born in Shenandoah County, Va., January 17, 1848, a son of George and Catherine (Green) Fetzer, both natives of Virginia and of the same County. The great-grandparents of Mr. Fetzer came from Germany and settled in New England and later in Virginia. George Fetzer had a family of nine children: John William, now a resident of Ottawa, Ill.; Eliza, who married L. T. Courtney and resides at Streator, Ill.; Josiah M.; and Perry Alexander, deceased, all born in Shenandoah County; Mahlon Harvey, who died about the age of fourteen; Alice, deceased; James, who resides near Streator, Ill.; May, who married Albert Harter in 1882, and died about

1884, had an infant, born in Illinois; and George, who resides at Dana, Ill.

In 1853 the family came west settling first in Vermillion Township, La Salle County, where the father built a comfortable home in which he lived until his death, January 14, 1892. His wife died June 1, 1879, and both passed away firm in the faith of the Lutheran Church of which they were devout members. George Fetzer became one of the progressive farmers and stock-raisers of his county and made a specialty of Poland-China hogs and Norman horses. Having a natural inclination toward the work, George Fetzer became very skilled in doctoring horses and his services were in request for miles around. In those days he was called a horse doctor. He was as careful of his stock as of his family, and his product commanded the highest prices in any local market. In politics he was a strong Democrat, and took an active part in the councils of his party, but never sought political preferment. Always progressive, he bought one of the first threshing machines in the neighborhood, and it was while oiling it that his left arm was so injured that amputation became necessary, thereby losing his arm above the elbow, but he did not allow this accident to make him lose faith in Providence or complain, but bore it with Christian patience. His wife was one of those lovely characters that do so much to exalt womanhood. Not only was she devoted to her family, but whenever trouble or sickness came to her neighbors, she was always on hand like a ministering angel, and she lived in her life the faith she early embraced.

Josiah M. Fetzer was five years of age when he was brought to LaSalle County, and there he received his somewhat meager education. When only ten years old he began to drive a team for his father and early learned all kinds of farm work, and in 1872, at twenty-four years of age, rented land and farmed it for two years. On March 18, 1874, he married Mary F. Scott, born in Eagle Township, LaSalle County, May 19, 1854 a daughter of John and Hannah (Dean) Scott, both natives of Ohio, who settled in LaSalle County about 1848. John Scott went to work in a saw-mill upon locating in Illinois, but later bought land and became one of the leading agriculturists of that section of the State. Some years ago he and his wife retired from the farm and now are living at Streator, where they command the confidence and respect of all who know them; and he is now eighty-seven and she seventy-six. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Scott: Charles, a farmer near White Hall, Ill.; William, a resident of Thayer, Ill.; Mrs. Fetzer; Fred, a real-estate agent of Streator; Nellie, wife of Lewis Doolittle of Streator. The Scott family was of Scotch extraction, and the Deans of German stock.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fetzer remained in LaSalle County until February 26, 1876, when they came to Avoca Township, Livingston County, to settle on 100 acres of land George Fetzer had bought in 1875. This farm



Johannes Kochler

was on Section 28 and in an uncultivated state, the greater part being swamp. To it Mr. Fetzter has added eighty acres, and now has one of the best farms in the county. He purchased the 100 acres from his father, and replaced the old frame building upon it with a comfortable home, commodious barn and other necessary outbuildings. His fences are in excellent condition and his machinery of the latest make. The large grounds are tastefully laid out and shaded by trees he has planted, and he has a fine maple grove which has been planted. Mr. Fetzter has always paid special attention to raising good cattle and hogs, and for many years raised Poland China, but about 1894 his attention was called to Duroc-Jersey hogs. The head of his herd is the "Colonel Livingston" purchased from M. W. Greer, of Schuyler County, Ill., a leader in this brand of hogs. His sire was sold by Mr. Greer in January, 1908, for \$1550. These hogs are easily kept, are very prolific, and considered as profitable as any breed on the market. His long experience and success make him an authority on farming and stock, and his advice is often asked and always freely given. A strong Democrat, Mr. Fetzter has been a member of the District School board since 1878, has been clerk of the Board since 1882, was Road Commissioner and is a member of the Democratic County Central Committee from Avoca Township and one of the party leaders.

One child, Cora, was born in LaSalle County, May 2, 1875 who is now the wife of George Nimmo, a successful farmer residing near Fairbury. The rest of the children, who were born in Avoca Township, were: Charles R., born May 5, 1879, married Della Bodley, daughter of Thomas Bodley, and they reside at Pontiac and have one child Francis; Pearl E., born September 30, 1884, married Jacob Ulfers a farmer of Avoca Township; Ethel Fay, born June 29, 1893, is at home. These children have all been given a good education. Pearl was a teacher before her marriage, and Miss Ethel, who has developed considerable talent, has been given music and drawing lessons and will complete her education in the High School of Fairbury. The Fetzters are charming people, pleasant to know and kind and generous to their neighbors. Although not connected with any religious denomination, they are very liberal in their support of all, and Mrs. Fetzter is an active member of the Domestic Science Club. No people in Livingston County are more thoroughly representative of its very best interests than they.

FISCHER, Joseph, one of the most highly respected citizens of Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., has been for many years an industrious, persevering and thrifty farmer in Pike Township, Livingston County, was born in Germany, July 18, 1833. His parents, George and Katrina (Schira) Fischer were Germans by nativity, and spent their entire lives in the land of their birth. Joseph Fischer received his education in the public schools of Germany, and in

1860, came to the United States, locating in Woodford County, Ill., where he became the owner of 40 acres of land. After farming there a number of years he sold this farm, and moved to Pike Township, Livingston County, where he bought another, containing 80 acres. He now owns 160 acres in Rooks Creek and Pike Townships, on which he was long engaged in general farming and raising stock, with profitable results.

In 1858 Mr. Fischer was married to Barbara Eddick, who was born in Germany, and their union resulted in nine children, as follows: Kate, Frederick, Barbara, Paulina, Rosa, Maggie, Mary, Sophia and Bertha. In politics, Mr. Fischer is an old-time Republican, and he and his worthy wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. When Mr. Fischer arrived in this country, he was without means and had no friends to assist him. He started out with a resolute will to make his own way in the world, being employed for a considerable period by the month, and through hard work, careful management and honest dealing, gradually acquired a snug competency. In his waning years, he is enjoying the fruits of his long and arduous toil, and commands the respect and cordial good-will of all who know him.

FITZPATRICK, Ernest, M. D.—In adding the name of Dr. Ernest Fitzpatrick to its citizenship in 1900, Pontiac was to profit by the ability of a man already possessing an established reputation as a physician and surgeon, and who, in founding the only Protestant hospital in the town, in conducting an extensive general outside practice, and in contributing to the dramatic and other literature of his time, was to add an element of more than average usefulness, humanness and scholarly erudition. Few men can claim a larger preparedness for their life work than Dr. Fitzpatrick, and few use their advantages to such splendid and far-reaching advantage.

Ernest Hugh Fitzpatrick was born in India, at Neilgherry Hills, January 18, 1863, a son of Rev. Henry Fitzpatrick, who was born in Madras, India, in 1838, and died in 1895 at Hyderabad, Deccan, India. He was educated at the University of Madras, from which he was graduated and took holy orders and then went to India. There he remained until his death. He was pastor of St. George's Episcopal church, a man of eminence and widely known throughout India for his educational and religious zeal and philanthropy. His wife in maidenhood was Jane Atkins.

The parents of the Rev. Henry Fitzpatrick were James and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick. His grandfathers, James Fitzpatrick and Edward Atkins, were officers in the British army and served through several campaigns in India. Two of Dr. Fitzpatrick's paternal uncles were physicians. Dr. Fitzpatrick was educated in the public schools of Madras, and the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, at Edinburgh, Scotland, from his eighteenth to his twenty-fourth

year getting his license from that institution, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. For seven years he practiced medicine in Birmingham, England, and in 1893 came to Odell, Ill., which continued his home for the following seven years. Upon coming to Pontiac in 1900, he engaged in practice with Dr. V. M. Daly, soon after purchasing the large brick building on Main Street, which since has been converted into a hospital. This hospital has twenty-three rooms, and is equipped with the best modern facilities for caring for the sick. Dr. Fitzpatrick is heart and soul devoted to the interests of this establishment, and it promises to become an enduring monument to his skill and humanitarianism. He also conducts a large general practice, and has placed the community under lasting obligations for his correct diagnoses and successful treatment of many apparently hopeless and complicated diseases.

A capacity for clear and beautiful expression has led Dr. Fitzpatrick far afield in the realm of literature, and he is credited with being the first to voice anti-race suicide through the medium of the press. He is the author of a poem called "The Passing of William McKinley," and several novels are ascribed to him. His last production "Magdalene of France," an historical drama, will win a lasting place in literature. He also has extensively contributed to current American periodicals, one of the best known of which is the *Globe Quarterly Journal*, published in Philadelphia, Pa.

In Edinburgh, Scotland, November 17, 1886, Dr. Fitzpatrick was united in marriage to Ada Maria Chisholm, born in Manchester, England, and they have one son, John Chisholm, born September 19, 1905. Dr. Fitzpatrick has won an enviable place in the professional and literary ranks of the country, and the possession of enthusiasm, concentration, patience and industry, renders practically inevitable a career of still larger scope and usefulness. He is an ex-officio member of the British-American Association; the American Medical Association; the Queen's College Medical Society, of Birmingham, Eng.; The Illinois State Medical Association, and Livingston County Medical Society. He and his wife are members of the Grace Episcopal church of Pontiac. In politics he is a British Conservative, but his sympathies are with the Democratic party.

FLAGLER, George Zachariah.—There were no evidences of municipal activity on the present site of Dwight when George Zachariah Flagler arrived here in 1855. He was well calculated to create them, however, for he brought with him a knowledge of farming and carpentering, and that sound business judgment and acumen which since has made him one of the community's valuable and substantial citizens. Born in Herkimer County, N. Y., June 4, 1828, Mr. Flagler is a son of Philip and Nancy (Daggert) Flagler, the former born in Dutchess and the latter in Herkimer County, N. Y. Philip Flagler followed

the occupation of farming during his entire active life, and when his son was a small boy moved to Portage County, Ohio, then an uninterrupted wilderness. Five years later he returned to Dutchess County, N. Y., and continued to make that his home for the rest of his life.

George Z. Flagler profited by the early subscription schools of New York and Portage County, Ohio, and remained on the paternal farm until his marriage September 22, 1849, to Phoebe Jane Clarkson, a native of Dutchess County, and daughter of Egbert and Maria Clarkson, also natives of New York State. For a year after his marriage Mr. Flagler worked his father's farm, and thereafter managed a farm for his uncle until 1855. During the summer of that year he shifted his useful efforts to where Dwight since has sprung into existence, and in 1856 invested his savings from farming and carpentering in two lots of the present village. Here he engaged in general farming and carpentering on a small scale, and in 1870 started the lumber yard which ever since has supplied a practical local need, and which since the retirement of Mr. Flagler in 1898, has been successfully operated by his son, George N. In the meantime he has been active in buying and selling town lots, and in earlier years was the means of locating many worthy people within the boundaries of the town. He has always had faith in its advantages and in its citizens, and his own contribution to its development has been the best guarantee of this faith. He is honored for his integrity, public spiritedness and general worth, and is popular and widely known in the community which has been his home for more than half a century. The retention of his powers until his eightieth year argues well for the temperance and moderation of his life, as well as for the advantages of industry and mental alertness. Of the three sons born to Mr. and Mrs. Flagler, Eugene is in the hardware business at Dwight; John has been an invalid since 1888; and George N. has charge of his father's lumber yard. The mother of these sons died March 20, 1904.

FLANAGAN, William H., joint proprietor of the grain elevator at Flanagan, Livingston County, Ill., and the owner of other valuable property in the vicinity, was born in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, February 16, 1881, a son of Peter and Catherine (O'Connell) Flanagan, full particulars of whose lives are given in a separate narrative in this connection. William H. Flanagan was reared in Nebraska Township, attending the public schools of Flanagan, and completing his education in St. Viateur's College, at Bourbonnais, Kankakee County. In connection with his brother Chas. P. and his brother-in-law Harry M. Whalen, as partners, his attention is devoted to the management of considerable farming and city property belonging to them. They own about 1200 acres of land in Livingston County with nearly two-thirds of the city lots of Flanagan besides property in Pontiac.

Mr. Flanagan was united in marriage May 1, 1906, with Julia Sullivan, born in Livingston



Leroy Kuhn.

County, Ill., a daughter of Jerry and Johanna (Doyle) Sullivan. Mrs. Flanagan's father settled in Livingston County at an early date, and, after farming a number of years in the same locality, moved to the village of Cornell, Ill., where he spent his last days. His wife is still living at Flanagan.

In political action, Mr. Flanagan is identified with the Democratic party, and is at present serving on the Board of Village Trustees. He and his wife are devout members of the Catholic church. Mr. Flanagan is a young man of much intelligence and force of character, and is diligent, capable and enterprising in the conduct of his various affairs. As a business man he maintains an enviable reputation. He is a member of Chatsworth Council Knights of Columbus, Chatsworth Council.

FLEISCHHAUER, John.—To the younger generation whose day has come since the comforts brought by easy communication have been available, it is a marvel that all the glory, wealth and comfort has been wrested from the soil here within the lifetime of men who are among us today. That men now living right in Illinois, fought the wild beasts of the wilderness, and fled from the savage Indian over these smiling farms and the sites of cities, where the roar of traffic and the heavy tramp of the iron wheels of factories have so lately drowned the voices of primeval nature, seems incredible. Every year the white-headed band that led the van grows smaller, but yet there are many years to come before the last of them who heard the first scream of the brazen voice of the locomotive which brought wealth and prosperity, will be silenced in the sleep that comes to us all. Livingston County, Ill., has a number of these honored pioneers and among them one who is specially well known is John Fleischhauer, who is one of the State's German-Americans, he having been born in Saxon Weimer, Germany, November 25, 1838, a son of Gotlieb and Christine (Hochheim) Fleischhauer. The father was a miller by trade, and he and his wife never left their native land. They had eight children. When but sixteen, John Fleischhauer came with two brothers to America, landing in New York, from whence they went to Maryland, and remained there for two years. From there he went to Iowa City, but after a short time came to Illinois, and continued as he had been doing, working as a farm laborer, in Sangamon County. After seven years there, he went to Lincoln, Logan County, and farmed for three years. He then bought a farm near Eyler, and operated it for twenty-nine years, when he came to his present farm of 160 acres on Section 12, Broughton Township, where he has made his home for the past sixteen years. Mr. Fleischhauer obtained an education in Germany and added to it by close observation after coming to the new country. He can relate many very entertaining incidents of pioneer life. When he came to Livingston County there were not more than half a dozen houses at Dwight. The land was either

covered with timber or under water, and conditions appeared discouraging. Mr. Fleischhauer was one of those sturdy men who never allowed anything to discourage him, but worked steadily ahead and now has the satisfaction of knowing that he has not lived his life in vain, but that he has borne well his part in the development of the county and the establishing of his name in this part of the State.

Mr. Fleischhauer was twice married. His first wife was Bendeina Warner of Pontiac. She bore his four children as follows: Emelia Emma, who lives at Union Hill, Ill.; Rudolph John, a resident of Aberdeen, S. Dak.; Lasetta and Winnie, both deceased. His second wife was Phoebe Warkley, and by this marriage he had these children: Daniel, a farmer of Alberta, B. C.; William, of South Dakota; Frank, a farmer of Alberta, B. C.; Cora; Edward, who is farming on the homestead; Nettie, seventeen years old; Ray, sixteen; John, who is fourteen; Clarence, twelve; Clifford, nine; and Elmer, seven. The development of fresh agricultural resources in Alberta, B. C., and South Dakota, fired the pioneer spirit in the bosoms of the sons of Mr. Fleischhauer and he encouraged them to make new homes for themselves, believing that is the best for young men. By experience he has proved the advantages of enduring the hardships of pioneer life, for eventually comes the admirable results. The sons are all doing well and are a credit to their father. Mr. Fleischhauer is a Republican in politics, but not an office-seeker. In religious affiliations he is a Lutheran, and is a man of high probity of character, whose long life has been spent in hard work. He is very well known throughout the county, and is recognized as one of the representative men of his time.

FOLEY, Patrick J. (deceased), one of the respected former residents of Broughton Township, Livingston County, and a man who took a deep interest in educational affairs, serving very acceptably as School Director, was a native of Tarrytown, N. Y., where he was born March 6, 1857, and died February 18, 1903. He was a son of Thomas Foley of Waterford, Ireland, and one of a family of four children, being the only son. His parents, upon coming to America, located first in New York, then in LaSalle County, Ill., but when Patrick was eighteen years old he came to Livingston County, where he spent the rest of his life. In 1880 he took up the homestead and brought it to a high state of cultivation through hard work, and in 1890 bought a second farm, and five years later bought a third farm of eighty acres, all in this Township. He is now the owner of 320 acres all in Livingston County.

In 1885 Patrick J. Foley married Bridget Farley of LaSalle County, a daughter of Peter and Thomisenia (O'Brien) Farley. She was one of ten children, five boys and five girls, the boys being born in New York State and the girls in LaSalle County. Mr. and Mrs. Foley had seven children, only four children living: Mary Jane,

born February 14, 1886; Bridget, born September 23, 1887; Joseph Patrick, born July 1, 1890; Thomas, born January 14, 1893; John, born May 15, 1894; Loretta, born May 7, 1897; Francis, born March 23, 1900. All are at home, and are a very promising lot of young people, bright and pleasant. Mr. Foley was a Democrat and took an active part in local politics. The family are Catholics and are connected with Immaculate Conception church, of Emington, Ill.

FORD & HARRINGTON, importers of Percheron, Belgian and Shire horses (stallions and mares) and dealers in American bred stallions and mares, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Frank Ford, of this firm, was born at Bourten, Somersetshire, England, May 29, 1850, a son of William H. Ford, also a native of Somersetshire. William H. Ford, who lived and died in his native land, was a farmer and a breeder of draft horses and was a fine judge of Shires, the draft horses of England. He followed farming and the breeding of Shire horses until his death in 1895.

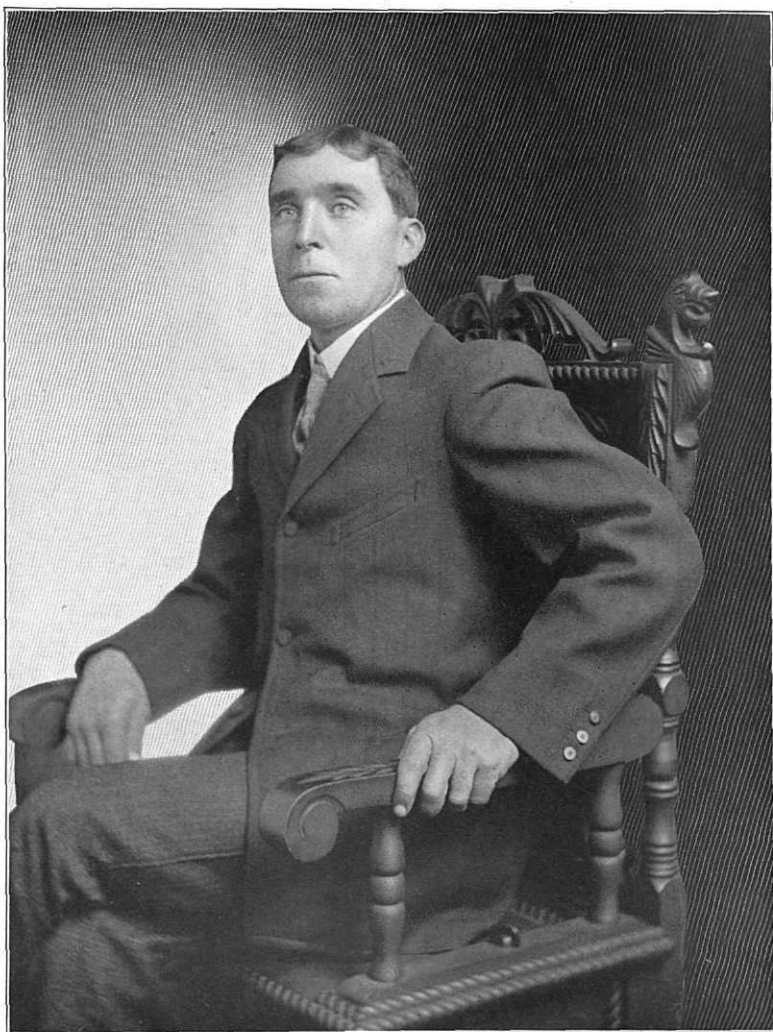
Frank Ford first saw the light of day on his father's farm. His boyhood and youth were spent in school and in his father's barns and fields, and, under his father's instruction, he became one of the best judges of horses in all that region. In 1868, when eighteen years old, he came to Ravenswood, Canada, where he gave his attention to farming. In 1870 he came to Odell, Livingston County, and engaged with Therin Wooley, breeders of draft horses, and was connected with their business until 1872. May 20, 1873, he married Miss Lucy Richardson, who was born in Flintshire, England, April 1, 1845. Her parents died when she was but a child, and she later came to America and located in Illinois. About the time of his marriage he bought forty acres of farm land near Odell, Livingston County, and in 1878 rented 320 acres in that vicinity, on which he began breeding and raising Percheron and Shire horses. There he remained until 1881, meeting with such success that during that year he bought 160 acres in the southeast quarter of Odell Township, on which he erected fine barns and other buildings for the breeding and care of horses. He purchased the finest Percherons, Belgians and Shires, both stallions and mares, buying from such importers as James D. Beckett, of Chicago; D. H. Vandolah, of Lexington, Ill.; the Dillon Brothers, of Normal, Ill.; and Dunham, Coleman & Fletcher, of Wayne, Ill. Mr. Ford bred and sold horses there until 1893, when he left the farm, still retaining its ownership, and removed to Fairbury to begin his labors there as buyer for the firm of O'Brien & Devine, dealers in big draft horses which they shipped to the largest horse markets in the United States and England. His connection as buyer and salesman with this concern terminated in 1900, when Mr. J. F. O'Brien died. At that time he formed a partnership with Austin Harrington under the firm name of Ford & Harrington, and continued buying and selling market horses

and sold for the largest importers of Percheron, Belgian, Shires and Hackneys horses, having such stock for sale at all times. In 1906 Ford & Harrington began importing horses, stallions and mares. In 1907 they established a barn at Parker, S. D., known as the Ford Stock Farm and exclusive importing, the first and only barn located in the Dakotas under the management of George A. Ford, a son of Frank Ford.

George A. Ford was born on his father's farm near Odell, Ill., February 27, 1876, and was educated in district schools, the public school of Odell and in the high school at Fairbury. Under his father's able tuition he had gained a practical and complete knowledge of the horse business, aptitude and inclination for which he had inherited from his English grandfather. No better selection for manager of the barn in South Dakota could have been made. In 1907 the firm established a branch business at Pueblo, Colo., in charge of M. F. Dillon, a son of Isaac Dillon of the firm of Dillon Brothers of Normal, Ill., the home of the old "Louis Napoleon," the first Norman horse imported to America, and which established the reputation of the Dillon Brothers as horse-breeders and dealers. As long ago as 1903 Ford & Harrington established a market horse barn at Cambria, Wayne County, Iowa, from which the central western horse market is covered. In 1906 they opened at Cambria, Iowa, a branch sales barn for imported horses, in charge of Curtis Mosher, who was born and reared on a farm near Galesburg, Ill.

Frank Ford is one of the best judges of horses in the Middle West, having bought horses in all the States, and public confidence in his judgment is so well established that any horse bought by him will find a market. He is known in all the great markets in the United States and his services have been sought by leading dealers in all of them, and their value is appreciated in foreign lands which are the homes of big horses. He is a member of all stud books in which the breeds he handles are recorded. His firm buys and sells from four hundred to five hundred horses a year, handling horses that sell for five hundred to thirty-five hundred dollars each, and have a reputation in many States as importing the best sires and sold on easy payments, thereby paying larger dividends than any other investment of like character. Horses handled by Ford & Harrington are heavy bone, deep middles, weighty conformation, sound and of purely natural growth of nature. The firm issues a fine catalogue each year, containing illustrations by the famous artist Lou. Burk. Each and every illustration is an exact reproduction from life of horses of the stock of stallions and mares that are for sale in the year in which the catalogue is published. By such strictly honest methods the firm has established an enviable reputation not only throughout the United States but in foreign countries.

FORNE1, John, Jr., an industrious and worthy farmer, living in his native township, of Pike, Livingston County, Ill., where his birth occurred



Edmund L. Lange

during the year 1867. His parents, John and Louise (Krof) Forney, were born in France, the former in 1824, and the latter in 1834. John Forney, who followed farming during his business life, was brought from France to Canada when he was ten years of age, and there attended the public schools, remaining in the "Dominion" until he reached the period of middle life. In 1866 he came to the United States, locating in Livingston County, Ill., where he bought a farm of 320 acres in Pike Township. He is still living in the same locality at an advanced age, his good wife having passed away in 1895. John Forney, Jr., obtained a fair common-school education in the district schools of Pike Township, and grew up on the home place. Since attaining maturity he has always been engaged in general farming, and is the owner of forty acres of very desirable land.

Mr. Forney has been twice married, first to Mattie L. Kropf, a native of Pirth County, Canada, a daughter of David and Lena (Lychty) Kropf, to whom he was united July 5, 1892, who bore him one child—Vera L.—and who died May 5, 1894. On January 23, 1904, he was married to Fannie Sears, a daughter of the late Christian and Loebe (Eigsti) Sears, born near Tiskilwa, Ill., where she owns eighty acres of land near the Sears homestead. In politics, Mr. Forney is a supporter of the Republican party and, in religious faith, he and his wife are members of the Mennonite denomination.

FOSTER, Henry A.—Experience proves that the best educated men are those who have had to fight for each educational opportunity. The boy who is given every advantage for acquiring an excellent education does not appreciate his opportunities or take advantage of them as does the boy who can only obtain them through hard work and privations. The pioneer boy of half a century ago had little or no chance to gain more than the most primitive of educations. Schools were very few in number, and poor in quality, and yet the men who have developed from these boys, rank easily among the best informed men of the land.

In 1854, on the second of September, there was born to George B. and Martha (Jones) Foster, a son, Henry A. Foster, in Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill. George Foster was born in Tioga County, N.Y., August 17, 1824, and came to Livingston County in 1838. Martha Jones was born in Indiana February 25, 1834, and came to Owego Township, this same County, in 1846. They were pioneers in Owego Township after their marriage, and their son, Henry A., lived the life of most pioneer boys, working hard on the farm and securing what education lay within his power. For pleasure he went hunting and fishing, and enjoyed himself at both pursuits, although he always bothered because he was not becoming better educated.

At the age of eighteen years, he came to the conclusion that an educated farmer was likely to succeed better than an uneducated one, even if he cared to remain on the farm; and so he

bent all his efforts towards securing a teacher's certificate, and, as soon as this was accomplished, began teaching. Every penny was carefully hoarded, so that he might study in higher schools. As soon as he was able, he entered the Northern Indiana Normal, and attended several terms, and once more resumed his teaching to earn more money for his studies, finally finishing after eight years of alternate studying and teaching, in the Lincoln University, at Lincoln, Ill., in 1880.

His first school was a rural one in the country, but at the close of his work at Lincoln, he taught in Reading Township, for one year in Ancona, and then for a period of six years in Pontiac—three years in the grammar grade and three years as Principal of the High School. At the expiration of that period, he thought the matter over carefully and decided that the profession of teaching was the most poorly paid for the money invested in long training, so he accepted a position as special clerk at the Illinois State Reformatory, and wrote up the biennial report of the Superintendent. Finishing this, he resigned in March, 1889, and in April of that year, began establishing the electric plant at Pontiac. In 1890, having firmly established a plant at Pontiac, the work on the plant at Fairbury was begun. Later Forrest was added to Fairbury, and the system developed for the two places is not excelled by any for efficiency. Mr. Foster moved to Pontiac in 1882 to take charge of his school, and in October, 1905, located in Fairbury as his work was there, so it was more convenient for him to live in that city. Since 1903 he has been very active in the work of the Fairbury Central Station, and is thoroughly versed in his work.

Notwithstanding his many business interests, Mr. Foster has always found time for the manifestation of a proper civic spirit, and has always been in the foremost ranks of those who have been active in promoting the welfare of the various communities in which he has lived. A Democrat, he is a member of the Democratic party because it is the party that advocates a low tariff, and these principles are in accordance with Mr. Foster's own views. From 1890 to 1894 Mr. Foster served as County Superintendent of Schools, being elected on the Democratic ticket. It may not be amiss in this connection to remark that the school work was in a sort of chaotic condition when he was elected County Superintendent—no worse than generally prevailed in other counties, but there was no system. The first work in systematizing was in bringing all the districts to act as a unit in making contracts for books. This was accomplished, with tremendous gain to the people in reduced prices, and inestimable gain to the pupils and teachers in the production of a course of study and system of reports that were models of their kind, and which are still in use, with little, if any, modifications, in both rural and most other schools. In recognition of this work the great Chicago dailies and the professional papers gave favorable and lengthy comment.

A further recognition of this great work is

found in his appointment as member of the State Reading Circle Board. Largely through his advocacy, the Pupils' Reading Circle and Teachers' Reading Circle were separated, the former being put under the direction of a board chosen by the State Teachers' Association, and the latter under the direction of the State County Superintendents' Association. The result has been a rapid and continuous increase in efficiency of each.

A further recognition of Mr. Foster's work and ability is evidenced by his appointment, in 1890, a member of the Committee which revised the State Course of Study. He could have been the nominee of his party for State Superintendent in 1898, had he so desired; indeed, several counties instructed for him, but he positively refused to allow his name presented to the State Convention.

A fuller history of Mr. Foster's work in this connection will be found in the Educational Department. He was a member of the Board of Education of Pontiac from 1899 to 1902, and fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., M. W. A. and several other societies and orders, and is popular in all. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Church.

On September 1, 1892, Mr. Foster was married at Braidwood, Ill., to Ada M. Peart, born at Wilmington, Ill., December 6, 1864. Two children were born to them: George Peart, born June 23, 1896; and Henry Hamilton, born September 19, 1900.

Too much cannot be said relative to Mr. Foster's work, both as an educator and business man. Through him three towns of Livingston County have been equipped with fine lighting and power plants, and he has been, as well, one of the progressive, public-spirited men, always eager to advance the community and to bring about much needed reforms.

FOX, Henry (deceased).—In the death of Henry Fox September 3, 1906, Livingston County lost a man of exemplary life and strong character, whose general aims and ambitions were noble and worthy of emulation. Mr. Fox represented a type as well as an individual—the type of German-American who, while retaining profound loyalty towards the mother country, yet has enough and to spare for the needs and demands of their larger adopted land. Mr. Fox contributed largely and substantially to the upbuilding of Dwight, was its Mayor for three terms and was also Village Trustee for several terms. He had the abilities and inclinations which best fit in with successful tilling of the soil, but his breadth of mind required and responded to outside diversions and activities, and he found great satisfaction in the friendship and interchange of ideas which came to him as a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masons, in both of which organizations he attained high rank.

Mr. Fox was born in Rentlingen, Wurtemberg, Germany, October 4, 1833, a son of Daniel and

Sophia (Maecken) Fox, the latter of whom died when her son was ten years old. Daniel Fox was a merchant by occupation in Germany, and there died about 1862. In his mercantile establishment his son was thoroughly grounded in the details of the business, and when the latter landed in America at the age of twenty-one years, he was well equipped for this necessary calling. In Milwaukee, Wis., he found a position with the wholesale house of Goll & Frank, and later went to Mt. Pulaski, Logan County, Ill., where he worked in a mercantile establishment. He afterwards engaged in business for himself at Mt. Pulaski until the breaking out of the Civil War, when, in April, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three months. Upon the expiration of his service he took a trip back to Germany, and after returning, enlisted in Company K, Twenty-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in October, 1861. Elevated to the rank of captain for meritorious service, he resigned from the service in February, 1862, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company H, One Hundred Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until May, 1863, when he was transferred to Captain in the Fifty-ninth U. S. A. Infantry. He received his honorable discharge January 31, 1866. Mr. Fox ran the gamut of practically all of the experiences which befall the soldier who emerges alive, several times being injured, the most serious resulting from his horse falling and crushing his ankle. He was a brave and intrepid captain, and was greatly beloved by his subordinates in the ranks. For exceptional bravery in protecting bridges from being burned by the Confederates, in December, 1863, Captain Fox was given a medal of honor by Congress in 1898.

After the war, Mr. Fox engaged in the lumber business until 1870, in Logan County, Ill., and during that year turned his attention to farming, which he followed until 1874. He then came to Dwight and took charge of 12,000 acres of land for Mr. William Scully, the celebrated English landholder, which was located in Grundy, Will and Livingston Counties, and it was in performance of this large responsibility that he was occupied up to the close of his life. Always conscientious and painstaking, and unselfishly giving his best efforts to any interest which engaged his attention, he gradually undermined his health by overwork, and his latter years were a sacrifice to a multiplicity of duties. It was, perhaps, in his family that the fine and considerate traits of Mr. Fox were most noticeable, and he was sincerely devoted to his fireside, preferring it to all outside attractions. He was twice married, first in 1857, to Magdalena Mayer, a native of Mt. Pulaski, Ill., and who became the mother of eight children: Frederick W., who died in 1898, having had two children, a son and daughter, the former of whom is a member of the United States Navy, on the steamship Washington; Frederick W., who married Amy Pumpelly June, 1884; Henry, a resident of Nelson, Neb., who married Alberta Corbet, and has two chil-



Mary J. Lange.

dren; Anna, wife of B. W. Showalter, of Davenport, Neb., and has four children; Lydia, a public school teacher of Dwight; Louis, a traveling salesman of Kansas City, Mo., married Laura Goelitzer, and has three children; Susan, an art teacher in Dwight, whose china painting is especially worthy of mention; Pauline, and Daniel. The mother of this family died in October, 1879, and in October, 1880. Mr. Fox was united in marriage to Harriet Chamberlin, born in Salina, near Syracuse, N. Y., a daughter of William and Nancy (Jackson) Chamberlin, from Vermont and New York, respectively. The Chamberlin family originated in Vermont, where Moses Chamberlain was a soldier in the Revolution, under General Washington. Simon Chamberlin, the grandfather of Mrs. Fox, was a Colonel during the Mexican War.

William Chamberlin, Mrs. Fox's father, enlisted in December, 1862, in Company A, One Hundred Fifth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in July, 1863, on account of disability. On his return home he engaged in farming, in which occupation he continued until his death, January 2, 1876, his wife having passed away September 28, 1873. Mr. Chamberlin was a Republican. Mrs. Fox's paternal grandparents, Simon S. and Nancy (Barstow) Chamberlin, were natives of Vermont and New York, respectively, and her maternal grandparents, Alexander and Polly (Hyde) were natives of New York State. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Fox, with the assistance of her stepson, Daniel, has assumed her husband's responsibility as manager of the large landed estate, and has proved herself an excellent business woman.

Henry Fox was a member of Livingston Lodge, No. 371, A. F. & A. M., of Dwight; of Wilmington Chapter, No. 142, R. A. M.; and of Streater Council, R. & S. M.; and Blaney Commandery, No. 5, K. T., of Morris, Ill. He held the office of Master of his Lodge, and held all the offices in the I. O. O. F., belonging to Dwight Lodge, No. 513, and Dwight Encampment No. 126, of which fraternity he was member No. 48. In the Subordinate Lodge he served as Noble Grand, and as Past Chief Patriarch in the Encampment. He was also an honored member and Past Commander of Dwight Post, No. 626, G. A. R., and a member of the military order of the Loyal Legion. Politically, he was a staunch Republican, although in local elections he was inclined to act independently.

Daniel Fox, who inherits much of his father's capacity for many-sided usefulness, maintained the family prestige for military service during the Spanish-American War, enlisting in April, 1898, in Company A, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and serving until his honorable discharge, December 11, 1898. During this time the war was located in Porto Rico. On January 27, 1904, Mr. Fox was united in marriage to Mary Sparks.

FRANCIS, Albert, who owns a fine dairy farm in Forrest Township, Livingston County, Ill., and is also successfully engaged in breeding high-

grade horses, is regarded as one of the leading citizens of his locality. Mr. Francis was born in Brown County, Ohio, August 1, 1848, a son of John and Margaret (Ross) Francis, respectively natives of Ireland and Ohio. John Francis was brought to the United States by his parents when five years of age, the latter settling in Ohio. He moved to Illinois in 1860, locating in Forrest Township, Livingston County, and his death occurred in the village of Forrest in 1898. His widow, who is now ninety-four years old, makes her home with the subject of this sketch. They reared a family of five sons and two daughters, all of whom are still living. Albert Francis was brought up on his father's farm, receiving his education in the common schools of Ohio and Illinois. Farming has always been his occupation, and his agricultural operations have yielded him a snug competency.

In July, 1883, Mr. Francis was united in marriage with Cynthia E. Earnhart, born in Fairbury, Ill., December 25, 1856. Five children have blessed their union, and all are at home. The political connection of Mr. Francis is with the Republican party, and for several years he has served the public as School Trustee. He and his excellent wife are earnest workers in the Methodist church, and the latter was a member of the School Board when the present high school building in Forrest was erected.

FREEMAN, William R., one of the prominent and prosperous farmer-citizens of Indian Grove Township, is living on a fine property on Section 18, upon which have been erected a good farm dwelling, a substantial barn and all other buildings appertaining to the conduct of a first-class farm. The fields are conveniently laid out for the cultivation of grain and for pasturage, the fences are substantially built and kept in good repair, and the entire property is fully equipped with the most modern machinery. In other words, Mr. Freeman is a model farmer and his property is one that compares favorably with the very best in the county. Mr. Freeman was born in Schuylkill Haven, Schuylkill County, Pa., June 10, 1854, is a son of John and Esther (Heffner) Freeman, both natives of Pennsylvania.

The history of the Freeman family is a sad one, for it was one day bereft of its kind father through a dastardly crime. John Freeman was known to be a man of means, and while running his canal boat through from Schuylkill Haven to Philadelphia, he was murdered, his skull being crushed and his body thrown into the river. This was all the more terrible, in that his family knew nothing of his death until his body was found. He had left home full of life, kissing his little ones goodbye, as was his custom, for he was a tender father and devoted husband. In his religious life he set an example many would do well to follow, for he was a devout member of the Methodist church and followed the teachings of his creed in business as well as private life. After his untimely end his fortune was lost and his little ones forced to depend upon their own resources. The children

born to himself and wife were: John Henry of Omaha, Neb.; David D. in partnership with William R., of whom mention is made further on in this sketch; Sarah, deceased—wife of George Deibert; Rebecca, wife of Rev. J. H. Tobias of Kansas City, Kan.; Katie, wife of Albert L. McKnight, of Newton, Kan. The mother of William R. Freeman married for her second husband William Cramer and, in 1859, the family moved to Pickaway County, Ohio. When but seven years of age, William R. Freeman was bound out to work for his board and clothing, and received none too large measure of either. In 1869 he came to Illinois, locating at Washington where he went to work in a chair factory, and during the time he was thus employed he tried to improve upon his meager education by working out in his head various problems in arithmetic; and so well did he succeed in cultivating his aptitude for figures, that he is now an expert at mental arithmetic and never thinks of using pencil and paper to work out any problem that presents itself. He also attended night school, eagerly gleaning every scrap of knowledge that came his way, doing this oftentimes when his little body was so weary with toil that he had difficulty in keeping awake. The result is that, today, he is a well informed man who remembers everything he has learned. After two years in the chair factory, he began learning the carpenter trade and continued at it five years, or until the winter of 1876. During the panic of 1873 he worked on the railroad at his trade, and turned over to his mother five dollars each week out of his wages.

After his marriage in 1877, he and his brother David rented 160 acres near Chenoa, McLean County, and began farming. In order to secure enough money to commence housekeeping, William R. was forced to borrow \$100 and, for ten years, he paid ten percent interest upon it, but in 1887 he cleared off his debt; in 1879 the brothers removed to another farm in McLean County, where they remained until 1885, when they rented 312 acres on Sections 18 and 19, Indian Grove Township. This land was all under water, but the brothers immediately began draining it, and now have it all under cultivation. When the ponds were drained hundreds of fish were left stranded. The land was very rich and is exceedingly productive, so that they have made an immense success of their farming. Through their industry and thrift the brothers have overcome adversity and are now men of means. In 1902 they each bought 160 acres in Vermilion County, Ill., postoffice Rankin. The land is well improved and although they bought it for \$85 per acre, they have refused \$125 per acre for it. Mr. Freeman is able to retire and looks forward to doing so soon, anticipating a home in Fairbury.

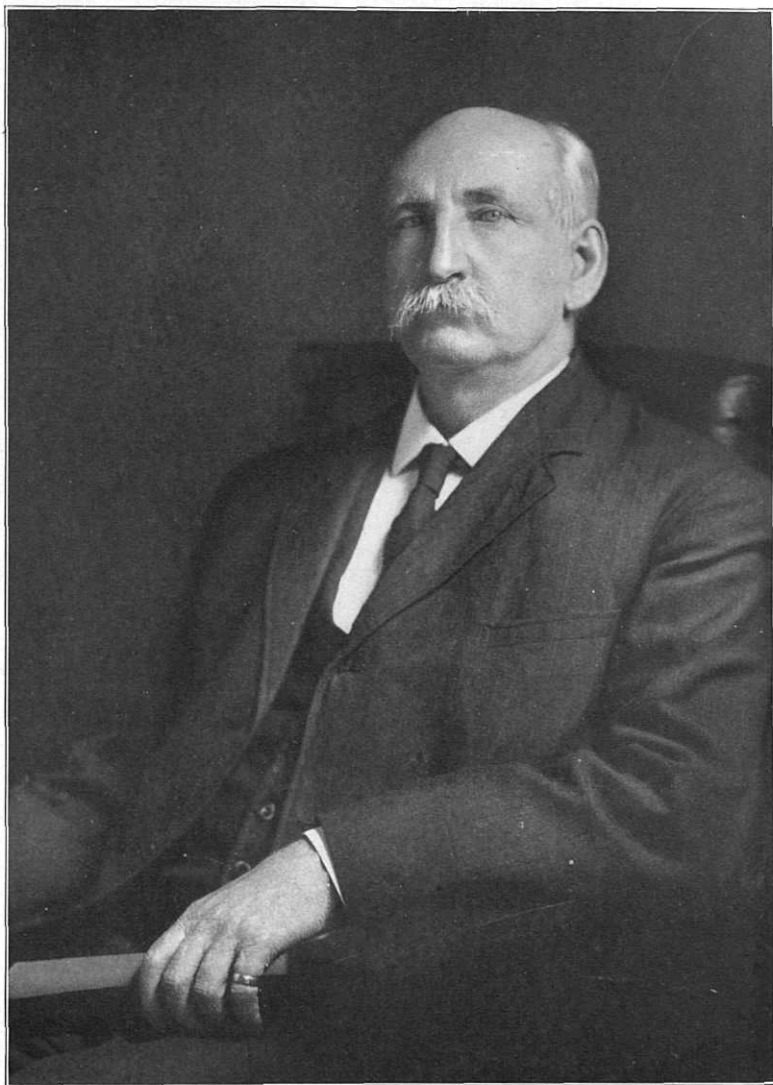
William R. Freeman and his brother David are united by very close ties. Not only are they brothers and partners, but they married sisters, Mary and Matilda Wright, on February 1, 1877. Mrs. William R. Freeman was Matilda Wright. The Wright family came from Kentucky and settled in Tazewell County, Ill. David

Freeman and wife, Mary, have had five children: Nettie, who married Joseph Garber, a farmer of McLean County; Lulie, who married Lemuel Watts, a farmer of Yates Township, McLean County; Ada, who married Roy Watts, a resident of Indian Grove Township; Harley, at home, and Harry who died at the age of nine from the effects of a fall from a horse.

When fifteen years of age William R. Freeman connected himself with the Evangelical church of Washington, but while in McLean County he united with the Methodist church and held his membership until the fall of 1905, when he was transferred by card to the Methodist church of Fairbury. He was one of the Trustees of the Weston church in McLean County for two years, and for twenty-three years has been a teacher in the Sunday School. He has always been a temperate man and is greatly interested in the anti-saloon fight. Mr. Freeman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 6, at Fairbury. A Republican in politics, he has always been active in the councils of his party and in April, 1908, was prominent in the great Local Option campaign of that period. This brief biography clearly proves that Mr. Freeman has always been on the side of law and order, and has lent his assistance to all measures tending to the uplifting of the general moral tone of his community, as well as its advancement in material prosperity.

FREY, Frederick.—The farmer of today is one of the most independent of business men, for upon him and his crops depends the welfare of the country. The day is long past when the farmer merely occupied and cultivated his land for shelter and food. He now carries on his farming operations scientifically and according to a well-defined method, and his wife and children enjoy every advantage he can procure for them. Frederick Frey, on Section 22, Waldo Township, Livingston County, is one of the German-Americans who make such good citizens. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 24, 1860, and there attended school from the age of six years—when the law requires parents to send children to school—until 1868. The family then emigrated to America, and his education was interrupted. He is a son of Andrew and Magdalena (Frey) Frey. Although bearing the same name and born in the same locality, Mr. and Mrs. Frey bore no blood relationship to each other. The parents were married May 28, 1839, in their native land, and there all their children were born. They were as follows: Matthew, born February 23, 1840; Mary, born February 20, 1842; George, born December 16, 1844; Christina, now the widow of Frederick Stuft, born March 29, 1850, residing in New York City; Rosa, born in 1851, died June 27, 1852.

Of this family, Matthew, who died May 25, 1905, was the first to come to America in 1856, and was followed in 1858 by Mary, now the widow of David Drissler who resides in New York City. Matthew located first at Reading, Pa., but later came west to Peoria. George and



E. Litchfield

Matthew came to Livingston County from Peoria and bought 160 acres of land on Section 22, from the Illinois Central Railroad, paying \$9 per acre for it. On July 17, 1868, he died. The father passed away on May 31, 1884, his widow survived him until September 12, 1888, when she too passed away. The family came to Livingston County and settled on George's farm, where the mother took charge of the little home the son had made in the new country.

Frderick Frey grew to manhood in Livingston County, and helped on the home farm. In 1874 he went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and worked at the butcher business conducted by his brother-in-law, David Drissler. In 1878 his father sent for him to come and take charge of the farm, and from then on he has been a farmer. He now owns 130 acres of as good land as can be found in the Township, and it yields him an excellent income through his good management and economical methods. When he bought his land there was a small house on it, 16x20 feet, and this he enlarged and made many improvements upon the property.

On June 11, 1891, Mr. Frey was married to Miss Henrietta Warrings, also a native of Germany, a daughter of Behrend Warrings, a resident of Clara City, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Frey have children as follows: Mamie, born September 12, 1892; Nettie, born August 24, 1894; Alice, born February 14, 1895; Fred, born November 19, 1898; Lenora, born March 24, 1904. Fraternally Mr. Frey is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp 1859. In politics he is a Republican and is very active in party affairs. For fifteen years he has been a member of the Republican County Central Committee, and in the Spring of 1908 was elected Supervisor of the Township. He is also School or Township Treasurer, and has filled all the Township offices. In 1904 Mr. Frey with several progressive farmers, organized the Gridley Farmers Elevator Company, of which he was elected President, and has since held that office. This company has eighty stockholders, and aims to handle the product of the farmers at highest market prices. The elevators have a capacity of 60,000 bushels. Mr. Frey has also been a Director in the Eppards Point Insurance Association since its organization in 1886. There have been few measures looking toward the advancement of the community before the public that have not received the hearty support of Mr. Frey, for he is a public-spirited and far-seeing man who realizes that to improve the general welfare of the community is to advance the material interests of all the people of that locality. The beautiful home of the Freys is the centre of complete domestic felicity, and a most delightful hospitality is shown towards all who enter its doors. There are few homes where the visitor is made to feel he is so welcome, as he is in that presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Frey.

FRISBY, William D., an old resident of Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., and one of the most enterprising and successful farmers

and stock-raisers in his section of the county, was born at Farmington, Fulton County, Ill., October 22, 1842, a son of James and Mary E. (Chrisman) Frisby, natives of Tennessee and Ohio, respectively. The father was the only member of his family who came from Tennessee to Illinois, with the exception of one of his sisters, Mrs. Nelson. They settled in Fulton County and finally moved to Peoria County, where both died. The parents of Mary E. Chrisman moved from Ohio to Knox County, Ill., where the latter was married to James Frisby about the year 1810. They remained in Fulton County until 1847, when they went to Peoria, which was their home up to 1877. In that year they located in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, where James Frisby bought 171 acres of land which had already been broken, and which he developed into a valuable property, making it one of the most desirable farms in that locality. After acquiring a snug competency he sold the place to a Mr. Odell, and in 1897, took up his residence in Fairbury, Ill., where he lived in retirement until the time of his death in 1898. His wife had passed away on the farm in 1873. To them were born three sons and four daughters, as follows: William, George W., Frank, Rachael, James, Laura, and Dorothy. George W. Frisby went to Kansas where he lived several years. In 1906 he located in Oklahoma, dying there in 1908, his wife having passed away in Kansas, in 1888. Frank is now a resident of Salem, Oregon. Rachael, deceased, was the wife of Robert Cooper, a farmer in McLean County, Ill.; Jane died in childhood, and Dorothy married Edward Orr, of Peoria. James Frisby was one of the best known farmers in Peoria County, and a useful member of the community. Politically, he was a Republican, and after moving to Livingston County, held various township offices. For sixteen years he served as constable, and acted for several terms in the capacity of School Director. His wife was a lifelong member of the church, and while he did not belong to it, he contributed liberally towards its work. He was animated by a high public spirit, and all worthy enterprises enlisted his support.

William D. Frisby was five years of age when his parents settled in Peoria County, and there began his schooling, finishing his studies in the commercial school at Peoria. He helped his father in farm work, accompanying the family to Livingston County in 1869; and remaining on the home place until the time of his marriage. He has been a resident of Livingston County for thirty-two years, and has met with success in his farming operations, making a specialty of breeding Draft, Clyde and Norman horses. According to the records of the Livingston County Fair Association, he has won more premiums on these grades than any other farmer in his locality.

The marriage of Mr. Frisby took place March 13, 1883, on which date he was wedded to Lydia Cottingham, born in Peoria County, Ill., August 2, 1855. Mrs. Frisby is a daughter of John F. Cottingham, whose family history is given in a

biographical record of George Cottingham, appearing elsewhere in this work. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Frisby rented a farm in Avoca Township, and some time later bought an eighty-acre tract of land in Indiana, to which, however, he never moved, selling it at a reasonable profit. In 1893 he rented 160 acres of land in Avoca Township, which has since been his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Frisby are the parents of the following named children: Frank, born March 27, 1884; Emma J., born October 21, 1886; George, born August 27, 1887; and Harry, born July 30, 1891. All are at home and all have received a good commercial school education. Emma underwent a musical training, and has been engaged in teaching instrumental music. The Frisby home is well supplied with edifying and entertaining books and other literature, and the household is one of the most agreeable to be found in the county. Mr. Frisby has always taken a deep interest in educational work, and in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the best interests of the community. Politically, he is a supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

FROEBE, Charles J., an energetic and progressive young farmer of Livingston County, Ill., and owner of one of the finest farms in Germanville Township, was born in that township, February 4, 1875, a son of Nicholas and Caroline (Goemmel) Froebe, natives of Germany. Nicholas Froebe, who was a successful farmer and a gallant veteran of the Civil War, was also in the military service in the Fatherland, where he remained until he was twenty-seven years old. In youth he learned the trade of a weaver. On coming to the United States he came to Woodford County, Ill., where he lived two years, moving then to Germanville Township, Livingston County, where he was drafted into the service for the Illinois Volunteer Infantry, taking part in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Knoxville and other important engagements. After the war he followed farming many years on the old Froebe homestead. Since 1896, he has been a resident of Oakland, California. His wife died June 2, 1906, at Napa, Cal., and there was buried. Their family consisted of four daughters and three sons, and of four surviving members of the family, one daughter is still in California, while the others are residents of Livingston County.

Charles J. Froebe received his education in Chatsworth, Ill., and accompanied his parents to the Golden State, where he lived seven years, afterwards spending a year in Texas. Since returning to Livingston County, he has devoted his attention successfully to farming on the homestead property of 208 acres, formerly owned by his father. On March 16, 1899, Mr. Froebe was married to Vida C. Fitch, a native of Columbus, Ohio, daughter of Theodore C. and Mary (Burr-Putnam) Fitch, the former a native of Jackson, Miss., and the latter of Marietta, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Fitch were married in Marietta during the Civil War, and in 1888 lo-

cated at Chattanooga, Tenn., where Mr. Fitch engaged in the printing business. In 1897, with his wife and daughter he went to Sacramento, Cal., where he conducted a fruit ranch until his death, September 4, 1901, his widow still surviving and residing there. On the Fitch side, Theodore Fitch was a lineal descendant of the noted John Fitch, of Massachusetts, who traced his ancestry back to the distinguished Fitch and Stuart families, who played such an important part in the history of England. Mrs. Froebe is also a great-granddaughter of Gen. Israel Putnam, of Revolutionary War fame. Two children have resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Froebe, namely: David Putnam and Esther Carlotta. Politically, Mr. Froebe acts with the Republican party. In religious belief he and his wife are Presbyterians.

FUGATE, Daniel, one of the prosperous farmers and representative citizens of Livingston County, resides on Section 35, Avoca Township, in the house he has occupied since childhood, and on the section on which he was born August 11, 1856. Three days after his birth, fire consumed the first dwelling and he was taken into the cornfield for safety, and thus turbulently began a life of hard work and ultimate success. He is a son of William and Mary J. (Ray) Fugate. The maternal grandmother lived to the extreme old age of 106 years, and was buried on her birthday in 1898, in Fairbury, Ill. All the members of the family on both sides lived to an old age, and died honored and respected.

William Fugate, the father, was born in Indiana, where he grew to maturity and married. At a very early day he came to Livingston County, and purchased 160 acres of land on Section 35 in Avoca Township. He was the only one of his family to come west at that time, and was one of the first settlers. The land was entirely unbroken, the greater portion being covered with timber which had to be cleared. He brought his little family overland in an ox-cart and built a most primitive log cabin in the midst of the woods, and began to hew out a home for his loved ones. The nearest trading place was Pontiac sixteen miles away, and from it all necessities had to be obtained. After his first dwelling burned, he erected another a little more pretentious and there made his home. In time he added to his original purchase 160 acres on the west of the creek, and developed it all into a fine farm. At that time there were no public roads, so he donated a strip of land about a mile in length and forty feet wide, which he maintained as a road. William Fugate was one of the typical pioneers, strong, hard-working, kind-hearted, quick to resent an injury or do a good deed. The stranger in his midst always found a welcome in his hospitable home, as well as those in trouble or need. He was always interested in public matters, and gave his support to whatever he deemed best for township or county. The grasp of his hand was hearty, his smile contagious, and no one ever appealed to him in vain. A Whig until the organization of the Republican

party, he entered heartily into the work of the latter, but could never be induced to accept public honors. From young manhood he was a faithful member of the United Brethren Church and always supported it most generously. When this representative man died on August 8, 1884, the whole county mourned, and his memory lives in the hearts of his many friends. His widow survives, living in the comfortable home he had provided for her and to which he had been forced to retire some time prior to his death. It was on account of his wonderful activity and vitality that he lived as long as he did. He had accumulated considerable means and at the time of his death, owned 320 acres. To himself and wife were born three sons and two daughters: Henderson, a resident of Fairbury; Marion, a stock-breeder of Hastings, Neb.; Molly, who married Abe Filley and both are deceased, leaving two children—Ollie, wife of Percy James of Fairbury; and Amanda, who married Newton Fulton, editor of "The Blade" of Fairbury; and Daniel, subject of this sketch.

Daniel Fugate was educated in the schools of his section and in farm work, but at an early age, was forced to take charge of affairs on account of his father's ill health, being compelled to work very hard to carry out that good man's wishes. When William Fugate lay on his dying bed, this faithful son was his constant attendant and did all in his power to alleviate the terrible suffering. After his father's death he returned to the farm, which has been his constant care, and here he still resides. On March 3, 1886, he married Miss Jennie Hanna, born in County Antrim, Ireland, March 3, 1855, is a daughter of John and Margaret (Galbrith) Hanna, the former a native of County Antrim and the latter of Scotland. In 1872 the Hanna family left Ireland, and, after a voyage of ten days and five hours, landed at Castle Garden, New York, whence they came direct to Fairbury to join other members of the family who had already settled in Fairbury. By trade Mr. Hanna was a linen weaver, but upon coming to Livingston County bought land in Esmen Township, north of Pontiac, consisting of a tract of 160 acres, partly improved. By hard work he became one of the wealthy men of his Township, and finally retired to Fairbury, where he made his home until his death August 8, 1874. His wife died October 16, 1886, both being members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was a Republican. He was a man of retiring disposition and never could be induced to take an active part in public affairs. Eleven children were born to himself and wife: Alexander, a farmer near Piper City, Ill.; James, a farmer of the same place; John, who served three years in the Civil War, and is now a resident of Poole, Neb.; Nancy, married David Nixon of Sac City, Iowa, is now deceased; Margaret, is living at home with her brother Alexander; Samuel is a farmer near Wolcott, Ill.; Isabella, married James S. Powell, a farmer of Livingston County; David, died in childhood, Mrs. Fugate, and two others who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Fugate have children as follows: Marion D. born February 10, 1888, in charge of the farm work; John Richard, born April 28, 1889, assists his brother in farm work; Frances Belle, born March 25, 1892; Chloe Marie, born September 7, 1895, and Emma Louise, born June 18, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Fugate have devoted much care and money to giving their children good educations and their home is made pleasant for them. They are encouraged to read and study, and are very bright, promising young people. The family all belong to the Presbyterian Church, and Mrs. Fugate takes an active part in the work of the Home Missionary Society of that Church. They occupy land that has been in the family for over half a century and which Mr. Fugate has helped to develop. They are typical representatives of the best class of farming people, intelligent, well-read and hospitable to a marked degree, delightful to meet and warm friends when once their confidence is gained.

FULTON, Newton E., member of the firm of Fulton & Sutton, and editor of the "Fairbury Blade," is one of the old newspaper men of Livingston County, Ill., whose paper is recognized as the organ of the Republican party in this section of the State. Mr. Fulton was born in Highland County, Ohio, a son of A. B. and Helena (Hughes) Fulton, who came of Scotch-Irish parentage, and were born in Ohio. They came to Illinois in the early '60s. The grandparents on both sides were born in Ohio.

The early life of Mr. Fulton was spent in Fairbury, where he attended the schools of his district, and then learned the art of telegraphy. Later he was a railroad brakeman and conductor in Nebraska and Illinois. When he was twenty-three years he commenced to learn the printing trade, later embarking in his present business enterprise, and has been editor of the "Fairbury Blade" for the past fifteen years.

Mr. Fulton is very prominent as a Mason, being Past Eminent Commander of St. Paul's Commandery, No. 34 Knights Templar, and is the present High Priest of Fairbury Chapter, No. 99 R. A. M., and has held that office for three years. He is also a member of Livingston Lodge, No. 290 I. O. O. F., and of the Modern Woodmen. In politics Mr. Fulton has been a Republican since he cast his first vote, and is very active in party matters.

On October 7, 1906, Mr. Fulton was married in Fairbury, Ill., to Ruth Filley, who was born in that city, a daughter of A. F. Filley, who was a member of Company K, Third Illinois Cavalry, and served through the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton are the parents of one child, Majorie.

Mr. Fulton is an active business man, a fluent and ready writer, and his paper has long been an important factor in the life of Livingston County.

GAFF, James H.—The members of the G. A. R. are regarded by the American people as set aside by reason of their work in the past, for special

vation. They did not shirk the heavy responsibilities laid upon their shoulders, and because of their bravery the Union was preserved, and this great country became what it is to-day. All honor is due them, and it is demonstrated in many ways. Every community has its veterans, and Pontiac is no exception to this rule, and among the esteemed veterans of Livingston County, is James Hook Gaff, of Pontiac, Ill.

Mr. Gaff was born at Xenia, Greene County, Ohio, March 23, 1827, and although now eighty-two years of age, he enjoys excellent health, sleeps as one who has nothing on his conscience, and is in every respect a wonderful man. He is a son of David McClure Gaff, born near Gettysburg, Pa., and Hannah Mock Gaff, born at Xenia, Ohio. The father was a farmer by occupation. David Gaff came of Irish descent, while his wife came of German and English ancestry. Both grandfathers of James Hook Gaff were in the War of 1812, and both settled in Greene County, Ohio, in 1801. The maternal grandparents were from Rowan County, N. C., and the trip was made in wagons, but as they were religious, no traveling was done on Sunday. The paternal grandparents were from Pennsylvania but came to Wheeling, Va., in wagons and floated down the Ohio River to Cincinnati on rafts.

James Hook Gaff was educated in the common school, which was of a very primitive character. The windows had greased paper attached to sticks in place of glass, and the appointments were of the crudest character, and yet he was thoroughly grounded in what he studied, and has remembered all he learned. Leaving school, he learned the blacksmith's trade, and worked on a farm in Fayette County, Ohio. His great sport was hunting, and he became very skilled, and this was to serve him in good stead when he became a pioneer of Illinois and the family larder depended upon his gun for meat.

In 1851 he made the trip from Fayette County, Ohio, to McLean County, Ill., in a wagon, arriving November 16, in 1859, removing from McLean County, to Livingston County, which has been his home ever since. In 1862 when the country needed his services, Mr. Gaff enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and went with General Sherman to the Sea, through the Carolinas to Richmond and then on to Washington, where he participated in the Grand Review, and during his period of service, he never was either captured or wounded, and has the astonishing record of never having been really sick for a day in his long and useful life. Mr. Gaff, however, attributes his excellent health in part to the fact that he had never used tobacco or liquor in any form, and that he has enjoyed himself whenever the opportunity offered, in a healthful and wholesome manner.

Politically, Mr. Gaff has been prominent, and, in 1858, left the Democratic party to become a Republican. He declares that he was a Democrat because he knew no better, and that as soon

as his eyes were opened to the truth of the principles advocated by the Republican party, he saw clearly, and has remained staunch in his support of its principles ever since. On November 6, 1866, he was elected Sheriff of Livingston County and served two years. He was Postmaster of Pontiac for eight years from 1878 to 1886; for twelve years was a Justice of the Peace; was Deputy Sheriff for eighteen years, and is now holding that office, as well as that of Justice of the Peace. In 1854 Mr. Gaff joined the Masonic fraternity, and in 1858 joined the Methodist Church and has been one of its stewards for forty years.

On December 23, 1850, Mr. Gaff married at Jeffersonville, Fayette County, Ohio, Catherine Powell, who was born at Jeffersonville, November 17, 1829. Mr. and Mrs. Gaff became the parents of the following children: David Eber, born November 3, 1853, died November 17, 1861; Mary Etta, born May 3, 1859, died May 6, 1860; Anna, born May 17, 1866; and they have one granddaughter, Helen Gaff Tanquary, born October 5, 1879, at Newton, Kan.

Men like Mr. Gaff teach much to those who have come after them, and set a most excellent example of desirable American citizenship, for the younger generation to follow. He is cheery, genial, delights in a good story or joke, and can tell them, too, in a most delightful way, and has more friends throughout this part of the state than any other man of his years.

GALL, Thomas Riley, a well known, successful and highly respected farmer in Odell Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Adams County, Ohio, on February 11, 1852, a son of George W. and Mary (Ward) Gall, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. The grandparents on the maternal side were Robert and Tabitha Ward, of Pennsylvania, who moved from that State to Ohio, and later, to Illinois, spending their closing years in Nevada Township, Livingston County. George W. Gall, a farmer by occupation, was married to Mary Ward in Ohio, and in 1847, moved to Putnam County, Ill., locating on a farm of eighty acres, where the father remained until the time of his death, on June 5, 1905, his wife having passed away March 13, 1897. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their family consisted of nine children, five of whom are living. In politics, George W. Gall was a supporter of the Democratic party. Thomas R. Gall was reared to the life of a farmer, and received his education in the common schools of Putnam County. After leaving home, he worked by the month for nine years as a farm hand, and then, for three years, farmed on rented land in Putnam County. In 1881 he moved to Livingston County, having charge of his grandfather's farm two years, and in 1883 bought a farm of eighty acres in Odell Township, to which he has since added another tract of eighty acres. On this land he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising.



Geo. McCake

On December 26, 1879, Mr. Gall was married to Elizabeth Regenold, born in Putnam County, Ill., a daughter of Oliver and Catherine Regenold, natives of Pennsylvania and Germany, respectively. The parents of Mrs. Gall settled in Putnam County at an early period, and her father is still living there at the age of seventy-seven years, her mother being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Gall have two children, namely: Etta Effa, wife of Henry R. Bockmann, of Nevada Township, Livingston County, and Ira Melvin.

Politically, Mr. Gall is identified with the Democratic party, and has served as School Director. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Modern Woodmen of America; and American Circle. He and his good wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GALLUP, Hon. Joseph (deceased).—The Gallup family trace their ancestry back to Capt. John Gallup, the founder of the American branch of the family who came to America in 1630. His wife, Hannah (Lake) Gallup, was a daughter of Madame Margarette Lake, the first white woman at New London, Conn., and a descendant of Charlemagne, who founded the French dynasty in Western Europe in the early part of the ninth century. Joseph Gallup was a son of Nathaniel Gallup, and he and his wife, Cecelia (Gallup) Gallup, were both natives of Connecticut, the former (Joseph) born September 4, 1827, and the latter, December 15, 1826. Joseph Gallup and his wife came to Peoria County, Ill., in 1850, and there bought 100 acres of land to which he made additions until he became the owner of 440 acres, and upon which he lived until his death on October 15, 1907, his wife having died in July, 1877. Joseph Gallup was a Democrat in his political associations, served as a Justice of the Peace, and two terms, from 1880 to 1884, was Representative in the General Assembly from the Peoria District. In religious belief he was a Universalist, while his wife was a member of the Baptist church.

Capt. John Gallup, the founder of the American Gallup family, was one of the early planters, locating at Mystic, now in New London County, Conn., in 1654, and there built a house on a tract of land granted him by the General Court of Connecticut. Capt. Gallup was a brave and valiant officer, and although sixty years of age, took a prominent part in the bloody King Philip's War. After King Philip, with a band of Narragansetts and other Indian allies, had taken refuge in a swamp, Capt. Gallup, at the head of a band of Mohegans and whites, joined in the attack under command of Col. Winslow, which resulted in the defeat of the famous Indian Chief, but at the cost of many lives, including six captains of the attacking force, of whom Captain Gallup was one. The name Gallup is said to be derived from the two German words, "Gott Lob"—meaning, "God be praised."

The first sea-fight within the limits of what is now the territory of the United States, at least on the eastern coast, is connected with the

history of the Gallup family, as it is said to have been fought in the summer of 1636, off Block Island, between a crew consisting of one man, Captain John Gallup, and two boys, his sons, on one side, and a force of Pequod Indians, on the other, the victory being won by Capt. Gallup and his little crew.

GALLUP, Marion, for many years a successful farmer of Livingston County, Ill., and one of the most prominent citizens of his locality, was born in Peoria County, Ill., November 20, 1853, the son of Joseph and Cecelia Gallup, both natives of Connecticut. (See sketch of Hon. Joseph Gallup and family in preceding section.) Marion Gallup spent his youth on his father's farm in Peoria County, meanwhile attending the public schools of his neighborhood. After graduating from the high school at Chilli-cothe, Peoria County, in the class of 1875, under the principalship of D. H. Pingree, Mr. Gallup engaged in the study of law in the office of Hopkins & Morron, Peoria, and after being admitted to the bar, practiced there for a short time. In 1880 he moved to Owego Township, Livingston County, where he bought a farm of 160 acres to which he has since added until he is now the owner of 240 acres, on which he carried on general farming and stock-raising. This is reputed to be one of the best and most highly cultivated farms in Livingston County. In addition, he is also the owner of a half-section of land near Plainview in Hale County, Texas.

On October 4, 1877, Mr. Gallup was married to Nellie L. Kimball, who was born August 4, 1859, at Buxton, near Gorham, Maine, the daughter of Ira and Lucy Maria (Phillips) Kimball, the former a native of Maine and the latter of Connecticut. (See sketch of Ira Kimball and family in another portion of this volume.) The union of Mr. and Mrs. Gallup has been blessed with four children, namely: Cecelia, born October 2, 1878; Joseph K., born February 27, 1880, and who now resides on his farm in Hale County, Texas; Nellie J., born April 4, 1881; and Harvey W., born November 4, 1888. Cecelia, the oldest daughter, is the wife of Joseph Munson of Centralia, Mo.; Nellie J. held a position with Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, until recently, when she went to California where she now resides; while Harvey still remains on the home farm. Mrs. Gallup traces her lineage to Pilgrim ancestry and the landing of the Mayflower, being a descendant of the Phillips family, which was noted in the ecclesiastical history of New England.

Originally a Democrat, Mr. Gallup is now a supporter of the principles of the Prohibition party. In 1882 he was chosen Township Collector and, in the following year, School Treasurer. For most of the time since 1885 he has served as Justice of the Peace, and for several years held the office of School Director, declining a re-election when his children reached maturity. In 1890 he was appointed lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance of Livingston County, retaining that position during the existence of the

Alliance, was also one of the founders of the Farmers' Institute in Pontiac, and is a member of the Executive Committee of most of the Institutes in Livingston County. For the past eight years he has been Secretary of the Owego Mutual Insurance Company, and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company.

Politically, Mr. Gallup has been active in the affairs of his county, having served as Chairman of the Prohibition Central Committee for several years, was candidate of the same party for Representative in the General Assembly in 1898, for Lieutenant-Governor in 1904, and on the primary ticket for Secretary of State 1908. In their church relations he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Gallup is a natural artist, and has accomplished much with her brush and pencil for the beautification of her home. She is a zealous worker in the cause of temperance and promotion of social elevation and morality.

GARRETSON, James Abraham, a resident of Cornell, Livingston County, is of Southern lineage on both sides of his family, being born in Harrison County, W. Va., July 23, 1854. His maternal grandparents, Abel and Elizabeth (Richards) Gourley, were both natives of Eastern Virginia, as were also his parents, William H. and Mary E. (Gourley) Garretson, the latter natives of Loudoun County, Eastern Virginia. By trade the father was a carpenter and millwright, a business which he followed with splendid success, but which he nevertheless sacrificed to enlist his services in behalf of his country's welfare. He became a member of Company H, One Hundred and Twelfth West Virginia Infantry, in 1862, and during his two years' service had ample opportunity to witness the horrors and dangers of warfare, nowhere more noticeable probably than in the battle of Piedmont, one of the most desperate encounters of the entire war. He participated in the charge up the heights into the jaws of death, never stopping or wavering until the enemy's ranks were broken and hundreds of prisoners captured. It was on this battlefield that he was instantly killed June 5, 1864. With a spirit no less heroic than that shown on the battlefield by the husband and father, Mrs. Garretson undertook the care and training of her six little children alone. It was in October of 1864 that she left the South and came to Illinois, settling in Esmen Township, Livingston County, on a farm which was owned by her brother. At first she was assisted by her father, who also made his home with them, and finally, as the children grew older, she was gradually relieved of many responsibilities. This farm remained the family home until James A. was twenty-seven years of age, when they removed to Grundy County and made their home on a rented farm for six years. Returning to Amity Township at the end of that time he purchased ninety-eight acres on Section 13, upon which, in addition to carrying on general farming, he also raised and dealt in horses, cattle

and hogs. At the same time he rented from John Gourley 320 acres of pasture land for his cattle. It was in the spring of 1904 that he removed to his present farm of 280 acres, 200 acres lying in Section 14 and the remainder in Section 23. Recently he has improved the property with a fine two-story frame house of seven rooms, heated by furnace and lighted by acetylene gas. Gradually Mr. Garretson is withdrawing from the more arduous labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and aside from buying and selling stock he is living practically retired.

By his marriage September 23, 1880, Mr. Garretson was united with Hannah Gamblin, who was born in Amity Township, Livingston County, Ill., June 30, 1861, the daughter of William and Sarah Jane (Beaman) Gamblin. Mrs. Garretson is descended from English ancestors, and both her parents and grandparents (the latter Benjamin and Jane (Lewis) Beaman, were born in England. Named in order of birth the ten children born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Garretson are as follows: Cora May, born August 7, 1882, and now the wife of Harry O. Brown, of Amity Township; Mabel Jane, born November 28, 1884, at home with her parents; Pearl Elizabeth, born February 21, 1887, and now the wife of A. C. Wellman, of Cornell, Ill.; Julia Leora, born November 27, 1888, at home; Milo Merton, born January 3, 1891; Harlow William, born March 1, 1893; Sarah Frances, born August 27, 1895; Glenn Herold, born January 17, 1901; Howard Alfred, born August 6, 1904; and James A., born July 23, 1907. Politically, Mr. Garretson is a Republican, and on the ticket of that party has been elected to the office of Road Commissioner, which he filled successfully for two terms. In his church affiliations he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and in the church of which he is a member, he is now filling the offices of trustee and steward.

GINGERICH, John W., for many years one of the most extensive and favorably known farmers in the vicinity of Chatsworth, Ill., and now living a retired life in that village, a man long prominent in connection with local affairs, was born in Hessen, Germany, in February, 1841. In 1852, he was brought to the United States by his parents, Michael and Magdalena (Otto) Gingerich, who located at first in Maryland, and thence, in the spring of 1853, moved to Peru, Ill., where the father began farming near Tonica, LaSalle County. There he continued many years, dying at the age of eighty-nine years, two weeks after the death of his wife. He was a successful farmer, a worthy man and a good citizen. He and his wife had four sons, namely: Joseph, formerly a farmer, of LaSalle County, who died at Pana, Ill.; Jacob, formerly a farmer of Livingston County, Charlotte Township, who settled there about the year 1867, and died at the age of forty-two years; Otto, who remained on the homestead, where he died in 1905; and John W.

John W. Gingerich stayed at home until he was twenty-four years old, coming to Livingston County in 1867, and buying at \$15 per acre, eighty acres of raw prairie land lying half a mile from his brother's farm in Charlotte Township, and four and a half miles northwest of Chatsworth. He lived on that farm until the spring of 1906, having increased his holding in the meantime until it comprised 560 acres, for some of which he paid as much as \$125 per acre. The entire property is now worth \$150 per acre. It contains three sets of buildings, and was operated wholly by its owner while he lived there. It is well tiled and is considered one of the best farms in the township.

In 1868, Mr. Gingerich was married, at Minonk, Ill., to Agnes Miller, a native of Scotland, who came to this country when quite young. She died in 1894. Eight children were born to this union, as follows: Ella, wife of William Barber, of Sullivan Township, Livingston County; Charles, who is on the old homestead farm; Joseph, who occupies a portion of the same farm; Preston, a farmer near Dwight, Ill.; John, who follows farming in Kansas; Frank, who is in partnership with his brother Charles, on the homestead farm; and Agnes, who is her father's housekeeper. One died in infancy. In 1906, John W. Gingerich withdrew from active business, and has since lived at Chatsworth in retirement, retaining possession of his farms.

In politics, Mr. Gingerich has always been a Democrat, in earlier life attending his party's conventions, and taking an active part in local affairs. He served eight years continuously as Supervisor, and held other township offices. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to Chatsworth Lodge, which he joined many years ago.

GLABE, Sebastian, an intelligent and thriving farmer of Germanville Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he has borne the reputation of a worthy and reliable member of the community for many years, was born in Farmdale, Tazewell County, Ill., July 31, 1859, a son of Jacob and Katharina (Stein) Glabe, natives of Kur-Hesen, Germany, of whom the former was born in 1815 and the latter in 1816. Their marriage took place in the fatherland in 1846, and two years later, they emigrated to the United States, proceeding to Illinois and settling in Tazewell County, where Jacob Glabe took up a tract of land at Farmdale. This he cleared and improved, following farming thereon up to the time of his decease, on July 12, 1892. The mother survived her husband until 1898, passing away at Farmdale. Their family consisted of six sons and one daughter.

Sebastian Glabe, who was the youngest of this family, was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the district schools. In early life he became associated with his brother Henry, who was an architect, contractor and builder, but later, his occupation was that of a mechanical engineer for several years, his residence being at Holton, Kan., where he and

his brother-in-law erected the Municipal Electric Light Plant. Since 1890 he has been located on his present farm, where he is the owner of 160 acres of fine land and his labors have been attended by profitable results.

On December 31, 1885, Mr. Glabe was married to Katharina Ruppel, of Livingston County, Ill., whose parents, Henry and Angelina (Berlett) Ruppel, were natives of the same province in Germany in which he was born. They came to this country in 1850, and lived ten years at Washington, Ill., moving thence to the homestead farm in Germanville Township, now operated by the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Glabe's father, Henry Ruppel, is now in his seventy-eighth year, but hale and hearty, and enjoys regular daily rides on his bicycle. Mr. and Mrs. Glabe have nine daughters, as follows: Laura; Nellie, a teacher of music; Luella, Esther, Ruth and Rachel (twins); Eva, Alice, and Seberta.

Politically, Mr. Glabe is a supporter of the Republican party. He and his excellent wife are members of the Evangelical church. He has held all the local offices and is now a Justice of the Peace, School Director, and has been Commissioner of Highways nine years.

GLINNEN, Dennis W.—Prominent among those devoted and sturdy pioneers whose efforts to conquer the wilderness have resulted in the establishment and development of the great Commonwealth of Illinois, is numbered the venerable Dennis Glinnen, who is now living in retirement in Fairbury, Livingston County. He is a son of James and Mary (Dunn) Glinnen, and he was born in West Meath, Ireland, May 9, 1836, being brought by his parents to the United States in 1840. Both parents were natives of West Meath, Ireland, where they were married about October, 1834.

Dennis Glinnen was only four years old when the family emigrated, and for four years the family lived in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania until 1844, when location was made in the village of Pontiac. After looking about, James Glinnen bought land in Avoca Township and upon this wild land the family settled and were among the first pioneers in that locality.

GODWIN, Dan W., who has been engaged in farming in Livingston County, Ill., for twenty-eight years, and is now located in Odell Township, was born in LaSalle County, Ill., June 5, 1856, a son of John and Anna (Long) Godwin, the former a native of Canada, and the latter of England. In Canada, the father was a ship-builder and in Illinois he followed farming. In 1833, the mother crossed the ocean with her parents, who settled in Canada. There, on reaching maturity, she became the wife of John Godwin, and they came to Illinois about the year 1847, locating on a farm of 160 acres in LaSalle County. This, John Godwin owned until the time of his death, February 15, 1896, his wife surviving him until December 11, 1905. In Canada, three children were born to them, and in Illinois seven. Of the family five were sons,

and eight are still living. In early life John Godwin was an active Whig politically, but later became a Republican. Although reared in the Episcopal faith, after settling in Illinois he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Dan W. Godwin received his education in the common schools of LaSalle County, and remained on the home farm until he was twenty-three years old. In 1880 he came to Livingston County, and carried on farming, here and there on rented land, until 1905. Then he bought his present farm of eighty acres in Odell Township. Besides his general farming operations, he devotes some attention to stock-raising.

On July 5, 1880, Mr. Godwin was united in marriage with Isabel Chapman, a daughter of James and Agnes (Allen) Chapman, natives of England, where their marriage took place. In 1848 they came to this country, settling near Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill., and shortly afterward moved to Morris, Ill., where both died of cholera, two days apart. Mr. Chapman had some reputation as a poet. Four children have resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Godwin, namely: Bertha, who was educated in the Odell High School, and has been a teacher for five years; Edna, Hazel, and Merrill.

Politically, Mr. Godwin is a Republican. He and his wife attend the Presbyterian church, and both are greatly respected by all who have the pleasure of their acquaintance.

GOEMBEL, John.—Farming as a business has attracted to it many of the solid, substantial men of all farming communities. These men know how to till their land so as to bring forth the best results, and to wrest from the soil a good income. Their neat premises, comfortable home, spacious barn, and well-fed stock, all testify to their prosperity. Their black soil produces wonderful crops, especially in Illinois, that great farming state, and in Livingston County, the conditions are particularly favorable for the farmer.

John Goembel of Strawn, Ill., is one of the best representatives of Illinois farmers to be found in this part of Livingston County. Mr. Goembel was born in Germanville Township, Livingston County, Ill., February 10, 1870, a son of William Philip and Elizabeth (Shroen) Goembel. William P. Goembel was born in Breitenbadam, Hertzberg, Kurhessen, Germany, February 20, 1833, while his wife was born in Niederhuta, Kurhessen, Germany, February 5, 1845, and died January 16, 1901. The father was a farmer and is now living retired.

Mr. Goembel was educated in the public schools of his neighborhood, and, after leaving the farm in Germanville Township with his parents in the fall of 1880, he settled in Strawn, Ill., and as soon as old enough he began to assist his father in the grain and lumber business. In the spring of 1894 Mr. Goembel began farming on his present property, a fine farm of 120 acres, which he owns and operates, devoting his attention to general farming purposes.

In political views, Mr. Goembel is a Democrat.

and in the spring of 1901 he was elected Supervisor on the Democratic ticket, has been re-elected at each successive election, and at present is holding this important office and giving entire satisfaction to all parties concerned. In 1898, Mr. Goembel joined the M. W. of A.; in 1902 he joined the K. of P. and he has filled all the offices in these local camps, and local lodges, and is at present K. of R. for the K. of P. In religious matters, he is a member of the German Lutheran church, and one of its most liberal supporters.

On December 25, 1893, Mr. Goembel married at Greenwood, Neb., Laura Alice Walling, who was born, reared and married in the same house. Her father died March 24, 1899, and her mother, surviving him until November 17, 1907, died on that date. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Goembel are as follows: Marguerite F., born December 11, 1894; William Philip, born August 9, 1896; Tebitha E., born September 8, 1901; and John, born January 11, 1908. Mr. Goembel is an excellent farmer, a good business man and, as a public official, his record is unsullied. He has always done what he believed to be his duty, and has endeavored to be a good neighbor, a kind and loving husband and father, and has succeeded in becoming an exemplary citizen, who is held up as a model to others.

GOLDSMITH, Charlie Elsworth.—The newspapers of any community are, naturally, the moulders of public opinion, and, as a weapon in the hands of irresponsible parties, a publication can do much harm; just so can one in capable hands, free from outside influence, accomplish much good. The *Long Point Advocate*, one of the leading newspapers of Livingston County, Ill., belongs to the latter class, being published by Charles Elsworth Goldsmith, who is well known throughout this section as a capable newspaper man and successful real-estate dealer. Mr. Goldsmith was born April 24, 1863, in Reading Township, Livingston County, Ill., and his boyhood was spent on a farm, where, on account of his unusual height, which enabled him to reach the handles of the plows long before other lads, he began to do his share in assisting his father, Azariah Goldsmith, in the work on the place when but nine years old. He remained on the homestead farm in Reading Township until 1897 when he bought an 80-acre farm in Long Point Township, which was his residence until 1904. In the latter year he came to Long Point and purchased the *Advocate*, a neutral publication, which under his able management has become one of the best sheets in this section. The policy of the paper is sound, as are its editorials, and the advertising men find it a good medium. Mr. Goldsmith has also done much in the real-estate line, and now owns 320 acres of finely improved land in Douglas County, S. D. In political matters he is a Republican, and socially is connected with Lodge No. 552, A. F. & A. M., the Knights of Pythias and the Mutual Protective League. His wife is also connected with the M. P. L., as well as the Royal Neighbors



DANIEL MCGOWAN AND FAMILY

and Emerald Chapter, No. 369, of the Eastern Star. She is an active member of the Christian Church.

On March 31, 1897, Mr. Goldsmith was united in marriage with Dora Deedrich, born February 2, 1868, in Reading Township, daughter of Augustus and Roxana (Thrasher) Deedrich, the former a native of France and the latter of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith have had three children: Sibyl, born July 14, 1899; Oliver A., born August 21, 1904, and Lucille, born September 15, 1905.

Augustus Deedrich, father of Mrs. Goldsmith, was brought to this country by his parents when but a lad, and on the trip to America both parents contracted sickness from which they died shortly after landing. When the lad was about twelve years of age he was taken in charge by an uncle, who had him placed in a convent; but becoming tired of the confinement, the boy escaped and made his way to Illinois. He had picked up the blacksmith trade, and at this he worked until came the call for volunteers during the Civil War, when he enlisted in Company D, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, for three years, this regiment being organized May 14, 1861, at Joliet, and mustered into service June 13, 1861. With this regiment Mr. Deedrich participated in the following engagements: Frederickstown, Mo.; Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Thompson's Plantation, Champion Hills, Big Black River, Vicksburg, Kennesaw Mountain, and Atlanta, and after a long and weary march through the Carolinas, the regiment was finally ordered to Louisville, Ky., where it was mustered out of the service, July 16, 1865, receiving its final discharge at Chicago on July 24th following. Mr. Deedrich was a brave and faithful soldier and, in more ways than one, proved his worth on the battlefield. At the battle of Shiloh, when a mortar burst, Mr. Deedrich's knowledge of blacksmithing stood the regiment in good stead, as he shrunk an iron band around the disabled piece so cleverly that it was put immediately back into service and did effective work. It is now on exhibition in Memorial Hall, at Springfield, Ill. After his long and faithful service to his country, Mr. Deedrich went to Ancona, where followed his trade until 1874, in which year he removed to Long Point, and there continued in the practice of his trade until his death in April, 1903. He was well known as a representative of the highest type of manhood, and while it may be said that he was an excellent soldier, it may also be recorded that he was an excellent citizen. His widow, who survives him still makes her home at Long Point. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Deedrich, as follows: three who are deceased; Dora, now Mrs. Goldsmith; May, the wife of H. E. Howell, a farmer near Woodstock, Ill.; Maude, the wife of W. H. Stewart, of Pontiac, Ill.; Grace, the wife of Leo Tilton, a farmer near Rochelle, Ill.; Bert, who makes his home in Monticello, Ill.; Mignon, the wife of Herbert F. Campbell, a farmer near Ashton, Ill.; and Elsie, who makes her home with her aged mother.

GOLDSMITH, Ezariah (deceased).—The death of a good man is a distinctive loss to any community, and when a man like Ezariah Goldsmith is taken away, he is publicly mourned and his memory is cherished for many years. The late Mr. Goldsmith was born August 8, 1831, in Township of Louth, District of Niagara, Upper Canada. His parents were Erastus and Mary (Smith) Goldsmith, the former born March 20, 1796, in Orange County, N. Y., but married in Canada, May 12, 1818, and in 1838 removed to the vicinity of Mansfield, Ohio, and there Ezariah Goldsmith was reared to manhood.

In 1856 Ezariah Goldsmith was married to Emily Hunter, and in December of that year they came by teams to Illinois, remaining on their first location until 1857, when they located in Livingston County. For five years they rented land in Long Point Township, but in 1863 Mr. Goldsmith bought eighty acres of land on Section 33, Reading Township, and on that farm established his family. From time to time he added to his property until, at the time of his demise, he owned 196 acres of fine farming land in Reading and Long Point Townships. At first the family lived in Reading Township, but later Mr. Goldsmith erected a very commodious home, with good buildings for his stock in Long Point Township, where his death occurred July 13, 1896. His widow survived him until April 17, 1908, when she too passed away. They had the following children: Mary, at home; James, a farmer of Reading Township; Charles E., editor and farmer; Lucy at home; Frank, a farmer in South Dakota; and two who died in infancy.

Upon coming to Illinois Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith united with the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Goldsmith was a very staunch Republican, and almost the last words he said were to declare that he was for McKinley. He was a very public-spirited man who always supported every measure he believed would conserve the best interests of the community. In his home life he was an affectionate and devoted father and husband and his family were bound to him by the strongest ties.

GONDERMAN, Emil, the well known and enterprising proprietor of a flourishing hardware store at Reddick, Kankakee County, Ill., was born near Weisbaden, Germany, July 22, 1873, a son of William and Johanna (Shultze) Gonderman, natives of Germany, where the former was born in 1834. William Gonderman, who was a tailor and music teacher after a long and diligent life in his fatherland, came to the United States in 1900, and has since made his home with the subject of this sketch. His wife died when the latter was two years old, and since her death he has remained single. Besides Emil, they had three other children, namely: Karl, who is working in the iron mines in Germany; Emma, who was first married to Henry Habel, in Germany, and after his death, to Gustav Weber; and Sophia, who became the wife of Edward Smidt, in Germany. Emil Gonderman received his education in the public

schools of his native land, where, in youth, he learned the trade of a machinist. In March, 1892, he came to the United States and proceeded to Bonfield, Kankakee County, Ill., going thence to Reddick, and later to Streator, Ill., working constantly at blacksmithing. Returning to Reddick in the fall of 1894, he then built a blacksmith shop, and shortly afterwards bought out his sole competitor in that line. He conducted his shop until the fire of 1895, which laid the business section of Reddick in ashes. Rebuilding the shop, he began selling agricultural implements in the following year, keeping his stock of goods on the place. In 1900 he sold the shop to Anton Miller, to whom he subsequently sold a dwelling house. From this time he directed his attention exclusively to his store interests, enlarging the store-room at intervals, and adding hardware to the stock, and subsequently, plumbing, heating and tinning supplies, in succession. Still later, he put in harness, buggies and wagons. Finding that the requirements of the trade demanded a larger building, he tore down the old frame structure, and on January 10, 1906, began a new, brick building, which was finished on March 18, following. This contains double store-rooms, and has more than 10,000 feet of floor space. His sales have greatly increased, and the concern is doing a very prosperous business. In 1895, Mr. Gonderman built a fine residence in that portion of Reddick which is situated within the limits of Livingston County. Besides his property in Reddick, he is the owner of a farm in South Dakota.

On March 22, 1895, Mr. Gonderman was united in marriage with Emma Greener, a daughter of Louis and Sophia (Freeman) Greener, born in Streator, Ill., December 25, 1870. Her father, a farmer near Streator, and an early settler of that locality, was one of the victims of the disastrous explosion of a car-load of dynamite at Streator, Ill., in 1907, of which Mr. Gonderman was a witness. Mr. and Mrs. Gonderman have three children, namely: Earl, born June 10, 1898; Carrie, born April 7, 1900; and Edna, born June 12, 1903.

In political affairs, Mr. Gonderman is a supporter of the Republican party, but entertains no ambition to hold public office. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the K. O. T. M.; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Rebeccas; and Knights of the Globe. In religion, his creed is that of the German Evangelical church. He is a young man of good business qualifications and unquestionable honesty, and his success is well deserved.

GORDON, Edward Freeman, an enterprising young farmer on Section 8, Odell Township, Livingston County, Ill., a man of notable intelligence, good mental attainments and sterling traits of character, was born in Sunbury Township, Livingston County, August 5, 1875, a son of James and Jennie (Upham) Gordon, the former a native of the North of Ireland and the latter of the State of Michigan. James Gordon came to the United States when a young man,

locating in Massachusetts, whence he subsequently went to New York, and still later to Michigan, where his marriage took place. There he lived several years, and about the year 1872, moved to Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Ill. After occupying the place five years, he changed his location to Odell Township where he now owns 280 acres of land. Twenty-five years of his life were passed in farming in this locality, and all the improvements on the property were made by him. In 1902 he withdrew from active exertion, taking up his residence in Odell, Ill., where he has since spent his time in leisure, enjoying the companionship of his worthy wife, the rewards of long continued toil. In politics, James Gordon is a Republican, and is still active in the interests of his party, although he has never entertained any desire for public office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have reared five children, all of whom are living.

In boyhood, Edward F. Gordon attended the common schools and the Odell High School, as well as that of Onarga, Ill., afterwards taking a course of one year at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, in Chicago. In 1902 he took charge of 120 acres of his father's farm, where he has since been engaged in farming and raising stock. He was married March 12, 1902, to Gertrude Mills, born in Livingston County, Ill., and a daughter of Roger H. and Sarah (Burns) Mills, old settlers in the county, having come from Ohio at an early period. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Gordon also came from that State, in the early '50s, settling in this locality. Mr. Mills now lives in Dwight, Ill., his wife having passed away August 3, 1896. For a number of years he followed farming, but at present is engaged in the real estate business. Politically, he is a Republican and is influential in local affairs, having served two terms as Supervisor. He has always taken an active and prominent part in church work. He and his wife had five children, of whom only one daughter beside Mrs. Gordon is living. The education of the latter was received in the Dwight High School. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have three children: Sarah Edith, Roger James and John Edward.

In politics, Edward F. Gordon is a Republican, and has held the office of School Trustee two terms. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He attends religious services at the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a member.

GOURLEY, Thomas Benton, owner of a fine farm of 340 acres in Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a prominent citizen of his locality, who now devotes his attention principally to dealing in live stock, was born in Amity Township, Livingston County, October 20, 1866. His father, Alfred Gourley, was born in Loudoun County, Va., April 20, 1826, and his mother, Rebecca Jane (Ferris) Gourley, was a native of what is now Harrison County, W. Va. Abel Gourley and Ross Ferris, the pater-

nal and maternal grandfathers, were both Virginia farmers. In 1865, Alfred Gourley, who also followed farming in Virginia, drove through with his team and implements to Livingston County, Ill., and in the following year, returning to the Old Dominion in the same way, and drove back to Illinois bringing his household goods. He then bought from "Bob" Ingersoll, 160 acres of land in Amity Township, to which he added by subsequent purchases until he had acquired about 480 acres. Ultimately, he was seized with rheumatism, which necessitated the amputation of one of his feet. For twelve or fourteen years he was an invalid, and his death occurred May 31, 1898, his widow surviving him until November 10, 1900. Politically, he was a staunch Democrat, and served the public as Road Commissioner and School Director. He and his wife were members of the Methodist church.

Thomas B. Gourley was educated in the district schools of Amity Township, and remained at home until he was nearly twenty-one years old. On September 6, 1887, he went to Spring Valley, Ill., where he was employed as a teamster in the stone quarries, and afterwards worked on a farm by the month. On reaching the age of twenty-three years, he rented the "Dr. Jones farm" one year, and in March, 1891, bought a one-third interest in 160 acres of land in Esmen Township, on which he carried on farming for ten years. In December, 1900, he sold out, purchasing from "Sol." Smith, 160 acres lying across the road from his former place. He has since increased the extent of his land-holdings until they now comprise, as stated at the opening of this sketch, 340 acres. In partnership with Mr. Frank Bradley he also purchased 280 acres in Renville County, Minn. On his property in Livingston County he built a modern house and an up-to-date barn in the fall of 1900, and has greatly improved it in many respects. In recent years he has not been engaged in active farming operations, devoting his time mainly to buying and selling live stock, and at present writing, the care of the farm devolves on his eldest son, Samuel A. Gourley. At the present time he is a Director of the Farmers' State Savings Bank of Cornell, Ill.

On January 15, 1890, at Pontiac, Ill., Mr. Gourley was united in marriage with Letta Alice Mills, who was born in Livingston County, Ill., January 30, 1872. Mrs. Gourley is a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Kimber) Mills, her father who came to LaSalle County, Ill., in 1869, having formerly filled the position of foreman of a large farm in England. In 1880 they moved to Esmen Township, Livingston County, later moving three miles north of Pontiac, living there two years. Then they went to Grundy County, Iowa, and later to the southern part of Kansas. They now live near Hamburg, Iowa. Jesse Kimber, grandfather of Mrs. Gourley, was by occupation a shepherd in England. Mr. Gourley and his worthy wife have had five children, as follows: Samuel Alfred (already men-

tioned), born May 9, 1891; Ella Josephine, born July 25, 1892; Ruth Ferris, born November 10, 1899; Mary Madeline, born March 7, 1904; and Lucille May, born October 21, 1906.

In political action, Mr. Gourley is a firm adherent of the Democratic party, and has rendered efficient public service as Road Commissioner and School Director. He is a man of sound judgment and enterprising spirit, and is recognized as one of the most prosperous and influential citizens of his locality.

GOWER, Hon. Bailey A., a retired farmer and old time resident of Livingston County, Ill., now living in the town of Odell, a man of high character and spotless reputation and one of the largest land-holders in the eastern part of the State, was born in Franklin County, Maine, October 27, 1835, a son of John and Dorothy (Weekes) Gower, natives of the last named State and county, where they were born, respectively, February 1, 1808, and April 10, 1811. The paternal grandfather, whose name was also John, was a son of Robert Gower, of England, who came to America prior to the Revolutionary War and settled in Franklin County, Maine, where he died. John Gower (I.), who was a farmer in Maine, married Mrs. Susanna (Bailey) Ames, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist church, in which Mr. Gower was a local preacher and is said to have solemnized more marriages and preached more funeral sermons in his day than any other minister in the State of that period. On the maternal side, the grandparents were Ebenezer and Roxanna (Brooks) Weekes, of Maine, the former a farmer and mill-owner in that State, where both of the grandparents died.

John Gower (II.), the father of Bailey A., who owned and operated a farm in Maine, came to Illinois in 1856, locating at Odell, Livingston County, and, by degrees, his family reached that point in the spring of the same year. At that time the town consisted of the railroad station, occupied by the agent, the "section boss" and his house, and a man named Lyons, who dwelt in a shanty. John Gower settled at the head of Mud Creek, six miles west of Odell, and together with his two sons, Bailey A. and Eben W., bought 240 acres of prairie land. During the second year of the Civil War, Eben W. Gower enlisted in Battery M, First Regiment Illinois Artillery, but died during the first year of his term of service. The father continued in partnership with his son Bailey A., until the time of his death. About the year 1880, he retired from active pursuits, and spent the remainder of his life in Odell. In his earlier career, Mr. John Gower was a staunch Whig and an ardent admirer of Henry Clay. He became a Republican on the organization of that party, and rendered faithful public service as Supervisor and Assessor and in other township offices, being a very prominent citizen. He and his wife were devout and active members of the Methodist church. The death of Mr. John Gower occurred April 19, 1897, and that of

his wife, Dorothy Gower, April 27, 1894. Besides the two sons above mentioned, they were the parents of one daughter, Julia H., widow of Charles Gammon, and who lives in Odell.

Hon. Bailey A. Gower received his education in the district schools and in Kent's Hill Academy, in Maine, and after his studies were over, taught school in the winter, working on the farm during the summer months. This course he followed, both in Maine and in Illinois, until it became necessary for him to use all of his time in assisting his father.

On January 13, 1861, Mr. Gower was married, at Esmen, Ill., to Olive C. Day, born in Franklin County, Maine, April 9, 1839, a daughter of James and Cynthia (Cutler) Day, who settled in Livingston County, Ill., in 1852, entering up a large tract of land in Esmen Township. Mr. Day died in 1860, his wife dying December 27, 1867. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Gower resulted in three children, namely: Louis James, born October 23, 1861, a ranchman in San Juan County, N. M.; Frank W., born October 10, 1863, who married Emma Ellis of Saginaw, Mich., and who since the death of his wife on December 22, 1903, with his children has resided with his father in Odell, supervising the farms of the latter; and Eben B., born December 23, 1868, and who is engaged in the practice of law in Kankakee, Ill., having been County Judge of Kankakee County for two terms. To the original purchase of 240 acres, made by his father, brother and himself, additions have been made from time to time, until the farms now owned by Mr. Gower comprise more than 1,000 acres. Besides this, he is the owner of farming lands in Iowa. After the retirement of his father from the farm, Bailey A. Gower began the raising of Short-horn cattle, and for twenty-five years devoted much attention to raising a superior variety of driving horses. His withdrawal from active business pursuits took place in the spring of 1894, when he removed to Odell, where, in 1895, he erected a handsome residence, equipped with all modern conveniences, which he has occupied with his wife, and where they now reside with their son, Frank W., and the children of the latter.

In his political life, Mr. Gower has always been an earnest Republican, exercising a strong influence in the local councils of his party. He has held the office of Supervisor, Representative for the Livingston District in the General Assembly for two terms (1892-96), during that period serving as Chairman of the Committee on Fees and Salaries and as a member of the Committees on Roads and Bridges, Fish and Game, State Institutions, Agriculture and Elections. He and his good wife are communicants of the Methodist church.

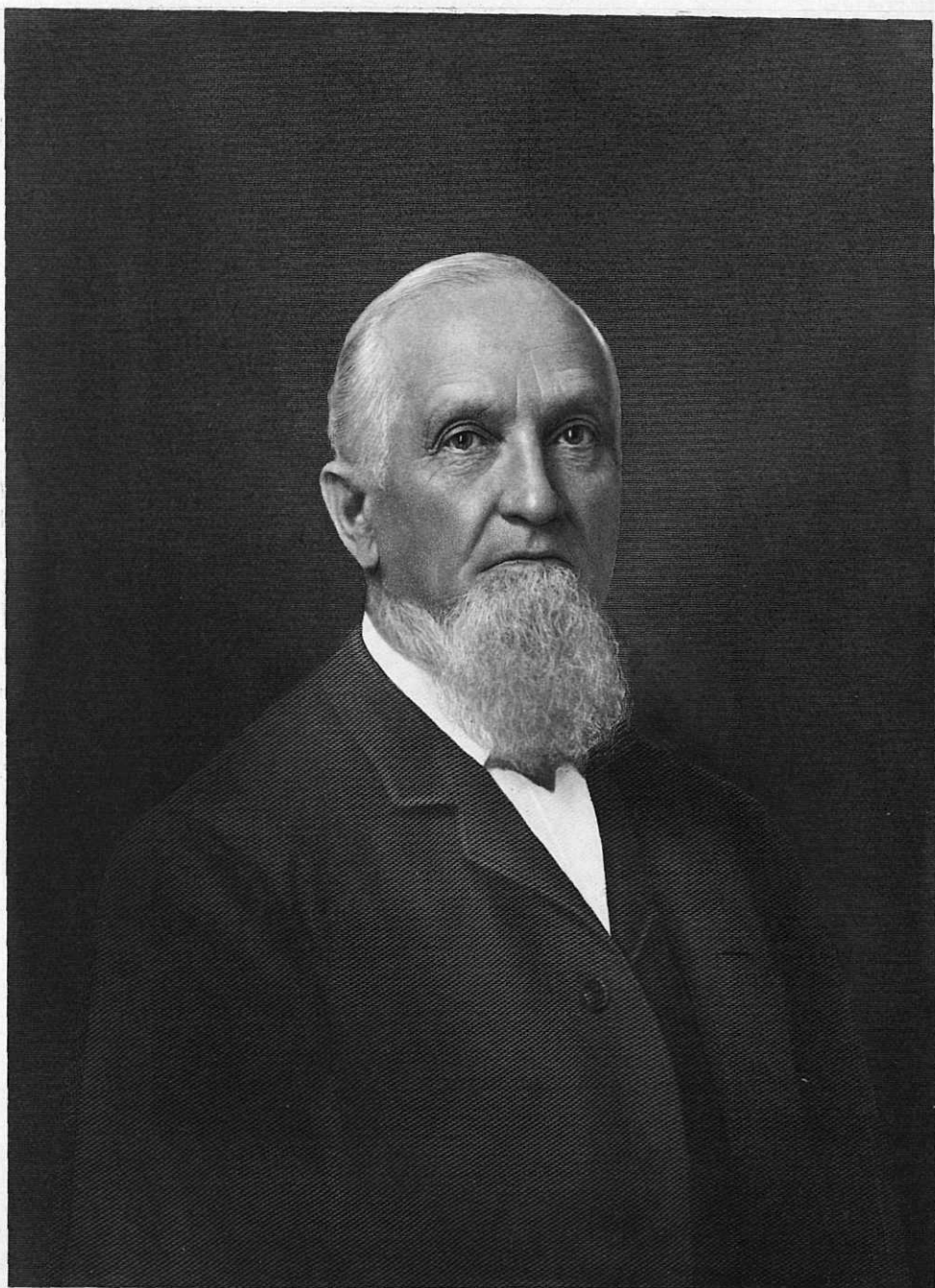
GRANDY, Nathan, (deceased).—During his long and honorable life Nathan Grandy demonstrated the worth of industry and integrity, and his contribution to the upbuilding of Livingston County was based upon the solid foundation of conscientious and painstaking labor. He had

the patience and perseverance which seems the natural heritage of the youth reared in the sterile places of the world, and on the farm in the vicinity of Pantton, Addison County, Vt., where he was born October 6, 1816, cultivated that economy and thrift which remained with him up to the time of his death on his splendid farm near Pontiac, Ill., on June 26, 1890. He was a son of Elijah Grandy, a small land-owner of Vermont, and in his youth his opportunities were extremely limited.

Feeling slight encouragement to remain on the rather unproductive farm of his father, Mr. Grandy while still a young man learned the carpenter's trade, and with this, and his knowledge of farming, fearlessly faced life in the central west, when he arrived in Greene County, Ill., during the summer of 1848. Purchasing land on a small scale, he tilled the same until 1856, in the meantime having married on February 12, 1854, Harriet E. Christy, who was born in Greene County, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Dennison) Christy, the former of whom was a native of Ohio, and the latter of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather, John Christy, was also born in Ohio. John Christy, the father of Mrs. Grandy, married his wife in Lawrence County, Ill., of which they were early settlers, and later moved to Greene County, where the balance of their lives was spent.

In 1856 Mr. Grandy came to Owego Township, Livingston County, and bought eighty acres of land, ten acres of which had been broken by the plow. To this he later added forty acres of wild prairie land, which he improved, and in 1872, he sold his farm and bought eighty acres in Pontiac Township. This in time was increased by the addition of 160 acres, and here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising for the balance of his life. This land joins Pontiac on the east, and the Pontiac driving park formerly was included in its acreage. After the death of her husband Mrs. Grandy continued to live on the farm until 1899, when she purchased a residence in the town of Pontiac, and since has made this her home. Mr. Grandy was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and besides several other offices, filled that of Justice of the Peace for several years. In religious affiliation he was a Baptist, and the local church profited largely by his generous support. To himself and wife were born the following named children: Truman E., who is engaged in the real-estate business in Pontiac; Charles E., who is engaged in operating the home farm; Harriet A.; Clara, wife of Albert G. Mason, a retired farmer of Pontiac; George W., in real-estate business at St. John, Stafford County, Kan.; William A., a resident and lumber dealer of Mason City, Ill.; Henry, a farmer of Owego Township, Livingston County; and Mary, wife of William Young, of Granada, Colo.

GRAY, Benjamin W. (deceased).—From the time of his arrival in Pontiac in 1852 until his death, about thirty-six years later, Benjamin W. Gray was identified with the business de-



David McKinnon

velopment of his city and contributed materially to its early progress. To him belonged the distinction of having opened the first dry-goods and grocery store in the town. Few people were living here at the time, but as years passed additional numbers were attracted by the possibilities of the place, and with the increase in population his business interests developed and broadened. Eventually he disposed of his store and gave his attention to the duties of Circuit Clerk. On retiring from that office he and Thomas Williams started the first saw and grist-mill in this region, and they continued together for some years, until finally Mr. Gray sold his interest to his partner.

A son of Miles G. and Harriet (Heloise) Gray, the gentleman whose name introduces this article was born in Hopkinsville, Ky., January 5, 1820, and in that city he received an excellent education. About 1841 he came to Illinois and settled in Bloomington, where he learned the trade of a harness-maker, but he never gave much attention to that occupation, finding other business pursuits better suited to his tastes. In youth he attended the Christian church, and his sympathies were always in accord with the doctrines of that denomination. Politically, he voted the Democratic ticket. As previously mentioned, he filled the office of Circuit Clerk for one term, besides which he served as City Clerk for nine years. Fraternally, he was connected with Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His death occurred March 17, 1886, in the city of which, for so many years, he had been an honored citizen.

November 4, 1845, Mr. Gray married Lavinia Jones, who was born in Springfield, Ohio, February 6, 1829, and died at Pontiac April 3, 1907. Her parents, Stephen and Jemima (Branson) Jones, were natives respectively of England and Wales, and after coming to the United States engaged in farming in Ohio, whence they moved by wagon to Illinois, settling in Bloomington as early as 1832. In the vicinity of that city they owned valuable land and remained until death. Three children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gray, but two died in infancy. The youngest, Harriet H., was born in Bloomington, Ill., December 9, 1849, and grew to womanhood in her native place. February 16, 1870, she became the wife of John A. Montgomery, who died January 5, 1901, leaving his wife without children, and she then came to Pontiac to surround her mother's declining days with every comfort affectionate love could provide. Mr. Montgomery was born in Bloomington November 25, 1843, being a son of Eli and Almira (McClung) Montgomery, natives of Virginia. After starting out for himself he engaged as postal clerk on the railroad from Chicago to Centralia for five years, after which for three years he was chief clerk in the Chicago Postoffice. At the time of his death he was filling the responsible position of superintendent of all the mail there. In fraternal relations he was a member of the Royal Arch Masons, and Farragut Post, G. A. R., in Chicago. At dif-

ferent periods during the Civil War he served in Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry (a 100-days regiment) and, in Company K., Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, and in his later years was a member of Farragut Post, Grand Army of the Republic, Chicago.

GRAY, George B. (deceased).—All honor is due those sturdy pioneers who, braving the dangers that beset them on every hand, and courageously facing the privations which were the natural accompaniments of pioneer days, overcame all obstacles that presented themselves and, by force of character and unremitting labor, gained the goal for which they so earnestly strove. George B. Gray was a typical representative of this class of men, and few have brightened the history of Livingston County with larger gifts of ability and resourcefulness. The life of Mr. Gray came to its conclusion August 1, 1898, crowned by sixty-four years, he having been born in New York State October 3, 1834. He was of Scotch-Irish ancestry and parentage, his father, Walter Gray, having been born in the former, and his mother, Eliza (Calvert) Gray, in the latter country. The parents came as children with their parents to New York, and there grew to man- and womanhood, were married, reared their children and died in comfortable, if not affluent, circumstances, resulting from their industry as agriculturists.

The educational advantages of George B. Gray included the public schools of Orleans County, N. Y., and a college at Rochester, the same State. His initial independence was gained as a farmer in Orleans County, and succeeding in making a fair living, he married, November 19, 1857, Martha A. Boynton, born in Orleans County, June 16, 1835, a daughter of John and Mary R. (Baker) Boynton, natives of Vermont, and Williamstown, Mass., respectively. Mrs. Gray's paternal grandfather was John Boynton, and her maternal grandparents were Eli and Mary (Burbank) Baker, of Williamstown, Mass. During the March following his marriage, Mr. Gray brought his wife to Livingston County, settling in Section 18, Rooks Creek Township, upon land secured from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. This was all wild prairie at that time, few if any improvements having been made. Mr. Gray set in motion the forces which made of his property one of the finest farms in the township, and specialized in high grade stock to such an extent that he materially influenced the local market. His way at first was by no means an easy one, and he saw many hardships ere he struck the highway of success. Determination and purpose were with him, however, every day of his working life, and he had a special capacity for discerning opportunities for wise investment. He became one of the wealthiest farmers and stock-raisers in his section, and at one time owned a large stock ranch in the wilds of Montana, and also had farm interests in the State of Iowa. Mr. Gray retired from active life January 4, 1891, when he moved into a resi-

dence purchased in Pontiac, but which has since been sold by his widow. He left also a daughter, Nellie A., now the wife of C. E. Legg, of Pontiac.

In political affiliation Mr. Gray was a Republican, and was twice elected as Representative in the State Legislature (1876-80). Various other offices profited by his good judgment and faithful service. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian, and for several years before his death he was an elder in the church. His moral convictions were strong and unyielding, and in his daily intercourse with his fellow men he adhered ever to the highest standard of business and moral integrity.

GREENEBAUM, Moses H., financier and banker, of Pontiac, Ill., is a descendant of one of the oldest and most respectable families of Germany. Here at the beginning of this brief account of his useful career, reference may be made to the obvious benefit which America has derived from the German element of its population. Of the citizen of no other nationality than of the German can it be more truthfully said that he is frugal, industrious, and enterprising, always adding to the public wealth by increasing his own, always paying his way and a little more, always patriotically alive to the public weal and all that it implies.

Mr. Greenebaum is a son of Henry G. and Caroline (Hart) Greenebaum, the former a native of Gelnhausen, the latter a native of Epplesheim, Germany. Henry G. Greenebaum was born in 1837 and in 1850 came to Lexington, Ill., where he was partner in a clothing firm until 1853. Then removing to Pontiac he established a clothing business there, which he continued successfully until 1871. Then he engaged in the banking business which he continued until his death, which occurred April 23, 1887. Caroline Hart, whom he married, was born in 1846 and, in 1856, was brought by her parents to Chicago, where she lived until her marriage. She died September 10, 1899. The immediate subject of this sketch was their eldest son. Their son Harry G. is a lawyer at Pontiac. Their daughter, Rosa, is Mrs. Louis Feltheimer of Chicago and their daughter May is Mrs. R. B. Campbell of Helena, Ark. Their son Jacob C. is Assistant Cashier of the Illinois State Savings Bank of Pontiac, and their son William W. is connected with the same institution as Assistant Cashier.

Moses H. Greenebaum was born at Pontiac, June 2, 1868, and was educated in public and high schools and at the Wesleyan University. At the age of eighteen he accepted a position in the Metropolitan National Bank of Chicago, with which he remained until after his father's death, when he became connected with the bank which his father had founded. For some time he was a teller, but in 1895, when he retired from active business, he had been Vice-President of the bank for several years. He was one of the founders of the Illinois State Savings Bank of Pontiac, and has long been its cashier. He was Vice-President of the Savings Bank Section of the American Bankers' Association, and a

member of the executive council of the Illinois Bankers' Association. He is a member also of the Sons of Pontiac, an Elk, an Odd Fellow and a 32d Degree Mason. Politically he is a member of the Democratic party and has been prominent in the Democratic County Committee, serving as its treasurer during one term. He was appointed by the Late Governor Altgeld Treasurer of the Illinois State Reformatory, which office he ably filled for about two years.

June 21, 1904, Mr. Greenebaum married Miss Mattie G. Bachrach, a daughter of John S. and Emilie (Mandel) Bachrach, the former a retired merchant of Bloomington.

GREGG, Emory, was born in Enosburg, Franklin County, Vt., November 12, 1846, a son of Martin B. and Mary B. Gregg, natives of Vermont. His father was a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gregg was educated at Cazenovia, N. Y., and enlisted in 1864 as a private in Company H, Ninth New York Cavalry, where he served for one year.

After the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Gregg returned home, and in 1867 came to Illinois, locating in Fairbury, in 1869, where he soon became a very prominent factor in the life of Livingston County. He identified himself with the Republican party, and was appointed Postmaster of Fairbury in 1898, which important office he still holds, discharging the duties pertaining to his position, creditably, and giving the people of Fairbury a good, efficient and satisfactory service.

On October 28, 1871, Mr. Gregg was married in Fairbury, Ill., to Minerva Henderson, who was born in Franklin, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Gregg have become the parents of the following children: Olin H., born in 1872; Gertrude M., born in 1875; Charles E., born in 1880, and Warren W., born in 1887.

For some time Mr. Gregg was a resident of Rose, N. Y., then located in East St. Louis, Ill., and from there came to Fairbury, Livingston County. He belongs to all the Masonic divisions, and is a member of G. A. R. Post No. 75, of Fairbury.

GREGG, Ross D., one of the most prominent citizens of Dwight, Ill., and favorably known throughout the surrounding country, having been for many years a prosperous farmer in Livingston County as well as a leader in local politics, was born in Putnam County, Ill., January 2, 1851, a son of Martin and Ann (Calloway) Gregg, natives of Kentucky and Pennsylvania, respectively. Martin Gregg was a wagon-maker by occupation. The family moved to Illinois at an early period, and after following his trade for several years, he entered as a student the medical department of the college at Ann Arbor, Mich., and died while in attendance there. His widow is still living, her home being in Sunbury Township, Livingston County.

Ross D. Gregg was reared to farm life, and received his education in the common schools. On June 15, 1854, his father entered a tract

of farming land in Sunbury Township, but of which he never took actual possession during his life. In 1868, the subject of this sketch, together with his mother, located on this tract and there lived for over eighteen years. In 1887 he moved to Round Grove Township, Livingston County, buying a farm of 160 acres, on which he remained until 1892, when he moved to a point near Dwight, soon afterwards establishing his residence in the village itself. In 1897, he built a comfortable and convenient house on East North Street, in Dwight, and since 1900, has devoted his attention to looking after farm lands for Frank L. Smith of Dwight.

On March 14, 1872, Mr. Gregg was united in marriage with Mary Brooker, a native of Ohio and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Elfry) Brooker, who came from that State to Illinois in 1857. Mrs. Gregg is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Politically, Mr. Gregg is a Republican, and has wielded a strong influence in the local affairs of his party. He served two years as Assessor of Round Grove Township, and was a member of the township and village boards for seven years. During the last eight years he has held the office of Supervisor. In fraternal circles he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of the most popular men in the northeastern part of Livingston County.

GROSH, Ezra, a well-to-do retired farmer, now living at leisure in Dwight, Ill., but still owning a fine farm in Livingston County, besides other valuable farming land in Grundy County, was born in the vicinity of Aurora, Dupage County, Ill., July 2, 1850. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Aman) Grosh, natives of Germany. John Grosh, who was a farmer by occupation, came to the United States single, as did Elizabeth Aman, both arriving during the '50s. In Dupage County, they first met, and not long afterwards were married. Subsequently, they moved to Grundy County, Ill., and ultimately, to Dwight, Livingston County, where they spent the rest of their days. They had two children, both of whom are living. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, John Grosh was a Republican. Ezra Grosh was brought up on his father's farm, and received his education in the common schools. In 1877 he bought a farm of eighty acres in Broughton Township, Livingston County, and began the task of improving it; but after working two years, sold it, buying a farm of 145 acres in Grundy County. About seven years afterwards, he sold a part of the land, purchasing 130 acres adjoining it. Besides this he owns 157 acres in Livingston County, just across the road, all of which makes, practically, one farm of 370 acres. In the spring of 1907, he abandoned active farming, moving to Dwight, and buying a comfortable residence, which he has since occupied.

Mr. Grosh was married March 25, 1874, to Elizabeth Hack, born in Pennsylvania, and a

daughter of Frederick and Mary (Knor) Hack, natives of Bavaria, Germany, who were early settlers in Livingston County. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Grosh are ten in number, as follows: William; John; Nettie, who resides in Dixon, Ill.; Henry; Edward; Alice, who lives in Ohio; Daniel; Albert; Bertha and Frank.

In politics, Mr. Grosh is a supporter of the Republican party. Mrs. Grosh is a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

GROTEVANT, Joseph B., formerly a farmer, but in more recent years a successful grain-dealer in Charlotte, Livingston County, Ill., and a man who has always taken an active and prominent part in public affairs, having served as Clerk and Supervisor, of Charlotte Township, was born in Peoria, Ill., December 26, 1864. His father, Albert Grotevant, was a native of New York State and a farmer by occupation, while his mother, Mary E. (Burrows) Grotevant, was born in London, England. The parents settled in Livingston County in 1888, and Albert Grotevant died in Charlotte, February 29, 1903, his wife having passed away in Chatsworth, Ill., December 17, 1900, when about sixty-three years old. During the Civil War the father was a soldier in the Second Regiment Illinois Artillery, for a year. Their family consisted of eleven children, of whom nine are still living. The subject of this sketch, who was the fourth in order of birth, was reared in Peoria, where his education was obtained in the public schools. When seventeen years old we went with his parents to Tazewell County, Ill., and after living there a few years, they located in Chatsworth Township, Livingston County, where Joseph B. Grotevant was engaged four years in farming, and then commenced dealing in grain at Healey and Charlotte, in which undertaking he has met with success.

Mr. Grotevant was married in Tremont, Tazewell County, June 24, 1891, to Alice McLean, who was born in that county, a daughter of David B. McLean, a well known farmer there. Two children have blessed their union, namely: Grace and Eugene.

In politics, Mr. Grotevant is a Republican. For several years he held the office of Clerk of Charlotte Township, and in the spring of 1906 was elected Supervisor. He served as Justice of the Peace a number of years. On September 1, 1908, Mr. Grotevant assumed the position of Manager of the Chatsworth Electric Light Plant. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

GROTEVANT, Thomas C., the present efficient and popular Supervisor of Forrest Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Peoria, Ill., March 7, 1867, a son of Albert and Mary E. (Burrows) Grotevant, the former a native of New York State and the latter of London, England. The parents settled in Livingston County in 1888, and the father died in Charlotte Township, February 29, 1903, the mother dying in Chatsworth December 17, 1900. At the time of

their decease they were respectively 73 and 63 years old.

Albert Grotevant served for one year in the Second Illinois Artillery Regiment during the Civil War. Eleven children were born to him and his faithful wife, of whom nine are still living. Thomas C., who was the fifth child of this family, accompanied his parents to Livingston County, having previously received his education in the common schools. In early manhood he followed farming, and in 1900, engaged in mercantile pursuits in Forrest, Ill., in which he has since continued.

Mr. Grotevant was married in the village of Forrest, April 19, 1900, to Martha E. Oppie, a daughter of A. N. Oppie, of that place. He has been successful in his business undertakings, and is looked upon as one of the most substantial and reliable merchants in the southeastern part of the county.

On political issues, Mr. Grotevant is identified with the Republican party. He has held the offices of Alderman and acted as Treasurer of the School Board, and in the spring of 1907, was elected Supervisor of Forrest Township. He has taken an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the community, and is classed as one of its most prominent and useful citizens. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. and the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious connection is with the Congregational church of Forrest, in which he acts in an official capacity. A record of the life of Mr. Grotevant's brother, Joseph B. Grotevant, appears elsewhere in this connection.

GSCHWENDTNER, Frank, an extensive landholder in Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill., a very successful farmer and stock-raiser, and one of the most prominent men in his locality, was born in Owego Township, Livingston County, January 12, 1867, a son of Anton and Magdalena (Brueck) Gschwendtner, natives of Bavaria, Germany, who came to the United States about the year 1858, proceeding to Illinois and first locating in Bureau County. In 1865 they moved to Livingston County, and settled on eighty acres of land bought by the father in Owego Township. To the first purchase he added by degrees until his landed possessions reached an aggregate of 700 acres. He died in Owego Township, on June 4, 1897, his wife still surviving, at an advanced age. They became the parents of five sons and three daughters, all of whom are living. In politics, Anton Gschwendtner was a Democrat, and was a member of the Catholic church, as is his widow. All his land was acquired by his own exertions, and he worked several years by the month in order to get a start in farming for himself. The subject of this sketch attended the common schools in early youth, and was reared to farm life, an occupation which he has always followed. He is the owner of 400 acres of land, and is extensively engaged in stock-raising, being a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and of Percheron

and Hackney horses. His farming operations are on a large scale, and he is classed as one of the leading representatives of the agricultural element in Owego Township.

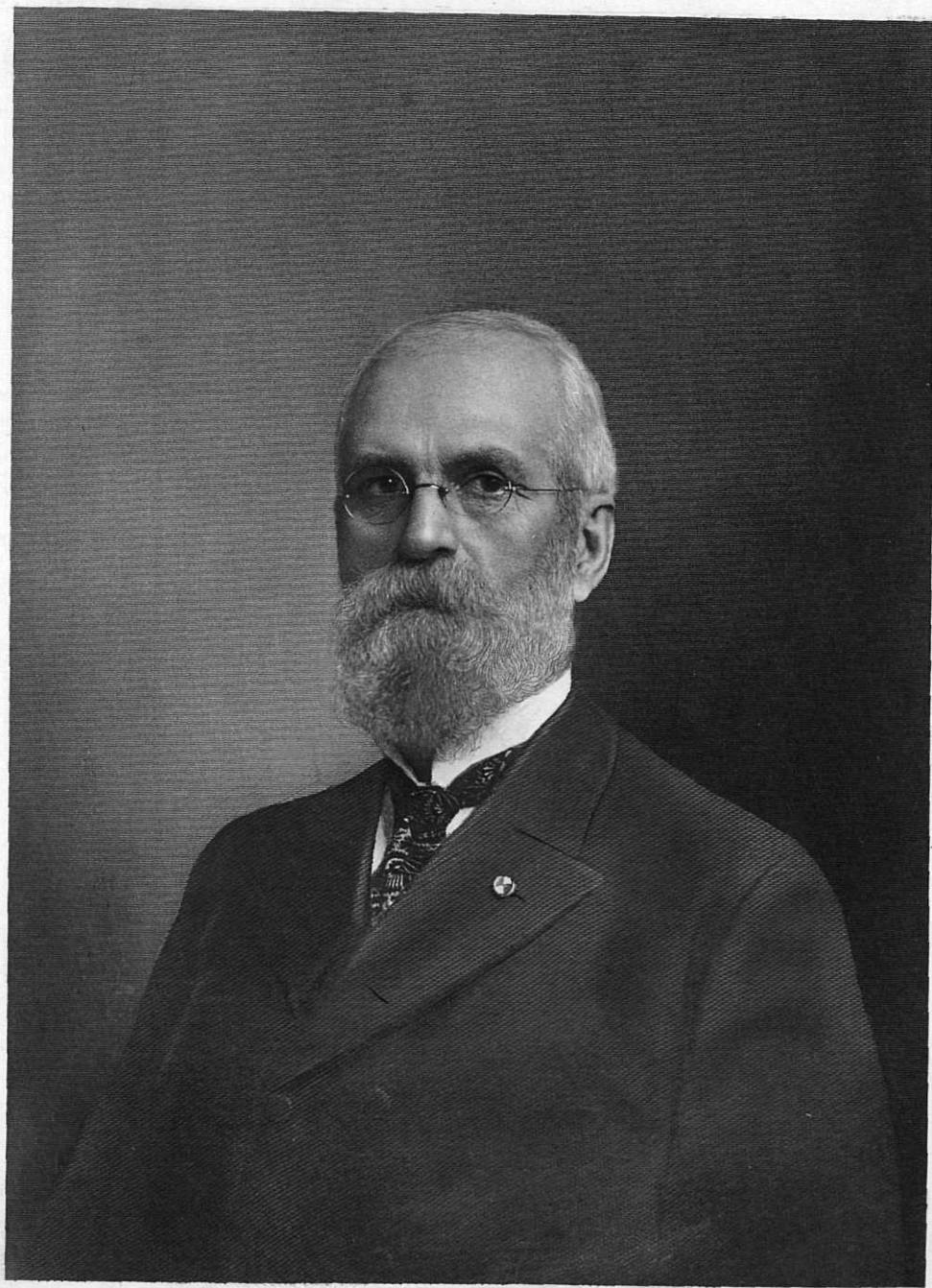
On March 1, 1894, Mr. Gschwendtner was joined in matrimony with Gusta Wolf, born in Owego Township, Livingston County, July 25, 1869, a daughter of John M. and Margaret (Apel) Wolf, who settled in the county in 1863. Her father died May 8, 1891, but her mother is still living on the home farm. This union resulted in four children, namely: Bernard F.; Raymond, deceased; Eva R. and Francis.

In politics, Mr. Gschwendtner is a Democrat, and is serving as School Director, having held this office for twelve years. He was Road Commissioner eight years, and in 1907 was elected Supervisor in Owego, which is a Republican Township. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

GUTEL, Theodule D., a retired farmer, of high character, now residing in Odell, Ill., surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoying the respect, confidence and good will of numerous friends, was for many years successfully engaged in agricultural labors in Nevada Township, Livingston County. Mr. Gutel was born in France, April 29, 1827. His father, Desere Gutel, a laborer, and his mother, Rose (Bonafore) Gutel, were natives of France, where they spent their entire lives. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. They were the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy. The educational opportunities within the reach of Theodule Gutel in his youth, were very meager. In December, 1854, he came to the United States, landing in New York City, where he was employed for a year. In 1855, he journeyed to Illinois, and after searching some time for a suitable location, finally bought a farm of 160 acres in Nevada Township, Livingston County. After conducting this farm successfully for more than thirty-five years, in March, 1892, he moved to Odell, where he bought a convenient and pleasant home, and has since lived in ease and contentment.

The marriage of Mr. Gutel took place September 12, 1857, Elizabeth Faivre then becoming his wife. Mrs. Gutel was born in France, and came to this country in 1850. After living six years in New York State, she became a resident of Illinois. Nine children blessed her union with Mr. Gutel, namely: George A., Alfred, Amos, Isaac, Frank, William, Clara, Peter, deceased, and John. The worthy mother of this family, and faithful companion of her husband through all his toil, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Politically, Mr. Gutel has been a Republican for many years, and during the period of his vigor and activity, served several terms as School Director, in a faithful and efficient manner. He has lived a long, industrious and useful life, amassing a snug competency and maintaining an unblemished record, and now, in the waning



John McWilliam

period of his career, is held in profound respect by all classes in the community.

HADLEY, Richard D.—New York State has contributed many of the best pioneers of the Western States, for from that commonwealth came sturdy men and hard-working women with the love of home and country firmly implanted in their hearts, seeking to make a place in the world for themselves, and most of all for their children. No hardships were too great, no difficulties too many, and eventually they not only succeeded in establishing new and valuable homes, but in building up a territory many times vaster than the more civilized region they left behind. Every State has its record of the lives of such pioneers, and Illinois has its share, while many of the most numerous families of Livingston County, were founded in the county by pioneers from Eastern States. The Hadley family comes of just such stock, and Richard D. Hadley, who for the past six years has been mail carrier on the Rural Route Delivery No. 1 out of Blackstone, is one of its representative members. The Hadley family traces its lineage back to three brothers who came to America about 1750, one settling in Vermont, one in New Hampshire, and one in Maryland, and it is from the Vermont Hadleys that Mr. Richard D. Hadley is descended. This family has always been prominent in civil and military affairs, and the great-grandfather Hadley was at Bunker Hill, and one of the most cherished possessions of Mr. Hadley is the bullet-box and belt worn by this hero at that battle.

Mr. Hadley was born on Section 32, in Sunbury Township, October 15, 1861, a son of James P. Hadley, who was born in Seneca, N. Y., in 1806. When nine years of age he was taken by his father to Cincinnati, via the Alleghany River on a house-boat. From there they came to LaSalle County, Ill., overland, and remained there from 1846 to 1848. In the latter year they came to Livingston County, where the elder Mr. Hadley bought 120 acres of wild land at \$1.25 per acre, which he improved and converted into a good home. Here he resided until his death, which occurred October 22, 1888. His widow survives, residing in Wayne County, Ill. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. James P. Hadley: Richard D.; Helen, who married Frank Heckman of Wilsonville, Neb.; Norman, of Wayne County, Ill.; Amanda, married W. A. Stuart of Utica, LaSalle County, Ill.; Irvin, of Greenville, Ky.; Roxy married T. A. Roe, of Pontiac, Ill.; Orin a farmer of Wayne County, Ill.

Richard D. Hadley was reared on his father's farm, and there remained until he was twenty-two. On January 1, 1884, he was married to Mary E. McDugle, who was born in Peoria County, January 7, 1864, a daughter of James McDugle, a native of Dayton, Ohio. Mr. McDugle came to Illinois, settling in Knox County. In 1891 Mr. and Mrs. Hadley left the farm where they had resided after their marriage, and located in Blackstone. For a short time Mr.

Hadley was connected with the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and then was in a general store until his appointment in 1902 to the Rural Free Delivery route out of Blackstone, and was the first in that service in his locality, and is the seventh to be appointed to the service in Livingston County. During his six years of faithful service he has made the unusual record of only losing three days. He has won the confidence of those who live on his route, who are very liberal in their praise of his devotion to duty and accommodating spirit.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hadley: James S., a carpenter, residing at home; Charles William, foreman of an extra gang on the Chicago & Alton Railroad; Nellie at home; Howard F., Mary K. and George R., all at home. During the many years Mr. Hadley has been a resident of Sunbury Township, he has taken a deep interest in Township affairs, and socially has affiliated himself with the I. O. O. F. & Lodge No. 618 of Cornell, Ill., and the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 1845 Blackstone; has also been a member of Company D., Tenth Regiment, Illinois National Guard of Odell, Ill.

HANKS, William H., a retired farmer and well-known resident of Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., is best known to the people of his community as a relative of the martyred President, Abraham Lincoln, his father being a first cousin of Nancy Hanks, the mother of Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Hanks was born in Ross County, Ohio, August 11, 1836, a son of Absalom and Harriet (Climer) Hanks, and grandson of Thomas Hanks. The Hanks family came from Virginia, as did the Lincoln family, and emigrated at an early day to Kentucky, and from thence to Ohio. While residing in Ohio, Thomas Hanks married Miss Elizabeth Ryan, and settled with her in Ross County, Ohio, in 1801. Just a year after Ohio was admitted to the Union, Thomas Hanks died.

Absalom Hanks moved to Clarke County about 1839, and William H. Hanks can remember the day they landed in Clarke County, Ohio, although he could not have been more than three years old. His parents have long since passed away, but he tenderly cherishes their memories and will never forget the good example both set him. The children of Absalom Hanks and wife were: George, who settled in McLean County, Ill., and became a wealthy farmer, dying there about 1868; Joseph was also a farmer of McLean County, his death occurring there about 1866, leaving one son and one daughter; Thomas moved to Missouri, where he died, leaving three daughters all of whom were married; Austen died near Springfield, Ohio, leaving two daughters; Elizabeth, Susan and Rebecca, all deceased; Salinda, widow of John Slagle of Detroit, Mich.; Emily married John Trueman of Clark County, Ohio. By occupation Absalom Hanks was a farmer, in religious faith he and his wife were members of the Christian Church, and he was a good man and successful farmer.

William H. Hanks was reared on his father's

farm and his education was a meager one. For school books he had a speller. In those days books were very expensive, and the children borrowed from each other. One would have a speller, another an arithmetic, and another perhaps a history, and thus they all by trading were enabled to learn from each one. In 1861 he responded to his country's call, enlisting in the Sixteenth Ohio Battery, and served for three years, participating in the entire Siege of Vicksburg. The battery was then transferred to New Orleans and there mustered out and sent to Columbus, Ohio, where he was honorably discharged after his three years of service, in September, 1864.

Returning to Clark County, Ohio, he remained until March, 1865, when he came to Illinois, and settled in McLean County, where he took charge of his brother Joseph's farm, the latter being unable to take care of it on account of sickness. Mr. Hanks thus continued until 1868, when he bought forty acres adjoining his brother's farm, in Yates Township, McLean County. There he was married August 16, 1868, to Miss Rosalia Matheny, born at Pleasant Hill, a daughter of John W. and Mary (Wikoff) Matheny, both of whom were natives of Adams County, Ohio. The young couple began housekeeping on his farm, where their children were all born. They are as follows: Laura, wife of Thomas Larson, a farmer living near Wolcott, Ind., and they have one child, Mabel; Thomas is on the old homestead in Yates Township, McLean County, and married Cora Mears; Florence, wife of Frank Reany, of Omro, Wis., and has three children—Marshall Harold, Nellie and Charlotte; Susan, Rose and Lizzie at home; William residing on Mr. Hanks' farm in McLean County; and Clark at home.

Mr. Hanks sold his first property and bought a 160-acre farm near Chenoa, where he lived until 1898, when he removed to his present pleasant residence in Fairbury, where he has a beautiful home surrounded by six acres of land, where he and his wife dispense a delightful hospitality that makes everyone welcome, stranger and friend alike. Early in life Mr. Hanks was converted, and was very prominent in church work in McLean County, and after locating in Livingston County, he took up the matter of helping erect a church building for the Free Methodists, and with Mr. Cottingham, J. C. Orr and Charles Crouch, put up the present edifice and has contributed very generously towards its support ever since. Until he located in Fairbury he used to drive in to service every Sunday, and is always to be found in the house of the Lord whenever there is any kind of service. Mrs. Hanks early joined the Evangelical Church. Mr. Hanks is a true-hearted Christian man who has always labored for what he considered right. For many years he has been a strong temperance man and, during the crusade of 1908, worked very hard to bring about the much-needed reformation, and takes no little satisfaction in what was accomplished. He is beloved by all who know and

appreciate his many virtues, and the work he has done in the way of elevating moral standards and bringing about reforms in several directions.

HARDING, Anthony, a well known and energetic farmer, was born in Livingston County, Ill., March 31, 1867, the fifth child of Frank and Mary (Brooks) Harding, natives of Bavaria, Germany, where his father was born September 14, 1834, and his mother on February 14, 1833.

In 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Harding, with their eldest child came to America and settled on a farm in LaSalle County, later moving to Livingston County where they continued to farm. Mr. Harding's last home was near Campus, where he met his death on September 1, 1890, being struck by a train while crossing the Wabash Railroad tracks on his return home in a farm wagon. Mr. Harding was a good and substantial citizen, living all his life as a strong believer in the Catholic faith.

Mary (Brooks) Harding, the mother of Anthony, was also a strong believer in the Catholic faith until her death February 22, 1891, of cancer of the stomach. She was the mother of nine children, six boys and three girls, all living except one daughter, Louise, who died September 14, 1904, of heart disease.

Anthony Harding grew to manhood on a farm, receiving his education in the common schools of the neighborhood, and during his mature life has carried on farming, his labors being attended by good results. He was raised a Catholic. On March 5, 1888, he was united in marriage to Mattie DeMoss, who was born in Avoca Township, September 14, 1869, being the fifth child of Thomas and Rhoda (Graves) DeMoss. James DeMoss, the father of Thomas DeMoss, and grandfather of Mrs. Harding, came with P. O. McDowell to Livingston County, Ill., from Hamilton County, Ind., and settled on a farm in Avoca Township, when his son Thomas was but ten years of age.

Thomas DeMoss was born in Hamilton County, Ind., November 20, 1830, and is the only son of James DeMoss now living. As the youngest child, he is still residing on the old homestead, being seventy-eight years old at the present time. This property was taken by his father in 1840. In 1853 Thomas DeMoss was united in marriage to Miss Leah Carson, of Indiana, who died September 27, 1857, and of this union was born one child, Melinda, now deceased. Mr. DeMoss was again married November 29, 1860, to Miss Rhoda Graves, of Avoca Township.

Mrs. Rhoda (Graves) DeMoss was born in Rensselaer County N. Y., July 30, 1841, and became one of the first teachers of this section of Livingston County. Of this union were born ten children, of whom one daughter died in infancy and one son of consumption at the age of fourteen years.

Mrs. Harding resided with her parents until her marriage on March 5, 1888. At the age of sixteen years she united with the Methodist Episcopal church of Owego Township, and received her education from the common schools

of Avoca. On March 5, 1888, Anthony Harding and Mattie DeMoss were united in marriage in the city of Pontiac. They resided on several farms in Livingston County, their last place of residence being on the Taylor farm, three miles south-east of Pontiac. To this union have been born eight children: Della E., Iva M., L. Pearl, O. Anthony, T. Earl, Mabel M., Clarence R., Marshall E., all of whom are living.

HARMON, Mahlon, one of the prosperous merchants of Long Point, and for many years one of her prominent business men, is a man who, while remarkably successful from a material standpoint, is one whose public spirit has brought him into active co-operation with his fellow citizens in various movements of the day, in which he always could be relied upon to take an advanced stand and exert his influence to the utmost on the side of law and order. He was born at Kirtland, Lake County, Ohio, in 1860, a son of Daniel Wright and Harriet (Martin) Harmon. After receiving a good common school education in Ohio, Mr. Harmon took a scientific course in the Northern Normal University, from which he was graduated in the Class of 1886. From 1886 to 1890 he was President of the Teachers' Association of Fulton County, Ohio, and for sixteen years was a teacher, beginning in Ohio in 1883. When he located at Long Point it was as a teacher, but he discovered that his real bent was toward a business life, and in 1907 the firm of Harmon Bros. was formed with J. E. Harmon as his partner, for the purpose of conducting a general merchandise business. The two have greatly enlarged their original business and carry a full line of all kinds of dry-goods, groceries, carpets, boots and shoes, and all commodities which go to make up a first class general merchandise store. Their prices are extremely low, while their service is at all times extremely good.

Mr. Harmon was a Republican from the time he first voted, but lately his interest has been deeply enlisted in the cause of temperance. He has served very acceptably as Town Clerk, Justice of the Peace for two terms, and is Notary Public. He comes of historical forebears, Daniel W. Harmon having been an explorer and Indian trader, and Reuben Harmon one of the early governors of Vermont.

On June 28, 1893, Mr. Harmon was married in Long Point, Livingston County, to Millie C. Lampe, and they have had these children: Wilmer, born November 17, 1900, and died at birth; Esther M., born February 8, 1902; Willis Oliver, born November 24, 1906; Willard Henry, born November 24, 1906, the last two being twins. Fraternally Mr. Harmon is a member of Adeina Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Streator, Streator Encampment, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Long Point Lodge Knights of Pythias. In religious matters he is a member of the Disciples of Christ, has served for many years as Superintendent of the Sunday School and been very active in church work. Having been a resident of Long Point since 1890, when

he settled in Livingston County, Mr. Harmon is one of the old residents of this locality, and has thoroughly borne his part in its development and the advancement of many improvements to be seen on every side.

HARMS, Henry H.—Farming has become a regular business, and the farmer works hard and produces wonderful results, obtaining from his rich soil an abundant income, and not merely a living as was the case in the older days. Livingston County has some as representative men engaged in agricultural pursuits as are occupied in any other walk of life, and among those worthy of special mention is Henry H. Harms of Section 19, Indian Grove Township, who was born near Kruger, Woodford County, Ill., March 16, 1860, a son of Henry H. and Jennie (Sathoff) Harms, both natives of Aurig, Ost Friesland, Germany. They were married in Germany, and, in 1851, left their native land and came to America, locating in Peoria. For five years he worked in a brickyard, but in 1856 began teaming, and continued in that business until 1859. In the fall of that year he rented a farm one mile west of Kruger, and there carried on farming until 1861. Once more he changed his location, settling near Secor, in Olio Township, Woodford County, and was there engaged in farming until 1865, when he bought 160 acres of land in Clayton Township, Woodford County, near Benson. Here he became one of the successful farmers of that locality, but in 1871 moved to Dr. Wilson's farm near Secor, leaving his two eldest sons on the home farm in Clayton Township. Although his health was not good, he was an excellent manager and good farmer and his services were in much demand. In 1865 he offered his services to his country, but they were refused because he did not come up to the military requirements. Remaining on the Wilson farm until 1874, Mr. Harms then bought another 160 acres in Lynn Township, Woodford County, which is considered the best in that part of the State, and he lived upon it until 1882, when his wife died on October 13th of that year. Mrs. Harms was one of the true women and a whole-souled Christian, devoted to her home and family.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Harms, Sr., namely: Harm W., a farmer owning 540 acres in Lee County, Ill.; Hilwert, a farmer owning 380 acres in Yates Township, McLean County, Ill.; Annie wife of D. Meyer, a hardware merchant and manufacturer of the Weir Hot Air Furnace at Peoria; Mary, married Frank Rewerts, a farmer on his 270-acre farm in Ogle County; Henry H.; Jennie, married John C. Wilms, a farmer on his 200-acre farm in Ogle County; Amanda, married George Wilms, grocer in Lincoln; Gertie died in infancy. The father died October 14, 1903. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Harms would never accept public office, but was always ready to help his friends and to aid in the promotion of any reform or improvement for the good of the community. He was a Lutheran in religious views, took an active part in church work, and was

greatly missed there as in his household after his demise.

Henry H. Harms, Jr., began his school life near Benson, Ill., but when still a small boy helped on the farm, and remained with his parents until after the death of his mother, in 1882. He was married on February 15 of that year, to Miss Julian Baum, born in Tazewell County, Ill., a daughter of Valentine Baum, a native of Germany, born at Hieplshiem, Rhine, Prussia, in 1823, and died August 12, 1908. He came to America in 1851 and in 1854 was married in New Jersey to Caroline Zimmer. They moved to Tazewell County, Ill., where Mrs. Harms was born June 26, 1859. About 1862, the family moved to Woodford County near Secor. After Mr. Baum retired from the farm, he located in Secor, where he made his home until his death, at the age of eighty-five years and sixteen days. Of his ten children, seven were left with his widow to mourn his demise, namely: Charles Baum on the homestead; William Baum a carpenter of Kankakee; Katherine, widow of Ernest Johnson, is a resident of Fairbury, Neb.; Julian wife of Henry H.; Caroline wife of Joseph Miller of Secor; Ida wife of Leonard Miller, a farmer near Secor, Ill. Emma with her mother makes her home with Charles on the old homestead.

After his marriage Henry H. Harms took charge of the homestead and his father resided with him until his death. In 1898 his father sold his farm in Woodford County, moving to Ogle County with his son Henry H., who had already bought 340 acres in Dement Township, and lived there until 1904, when he sold out and bought the farm on which he now lives. He has added to this and now owns 575 acres in one tract, on which he has erected excellent buildings and has a very comfortable home. He has improved the property until it is one of the best in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Harms have children as follows: Jennie C., born January 7, 1883, married John G. Gruben, is operating 210 acres of the home farm, and they have two children—Walter and Victor; Valentine William, born July 1, 1884, is at home; Henry H., Jr., born April 21, 1887, at home; Caroline, born February 27, 1889, wife of Henry Hiens, a farmer of McLean County, Ill.; Annie, born November 3, 1892; Emma, born July 11, 1895; Herman, born July 26, 1897. These children were all born in Woodford County.

When the elder Henry H. Harms came to America he was a poor man and when he landed in Peoria, he spent his last cent to cross the ferry. Having worked his way from abject poverty to wealth, he believed in training his sons to do likewise, and so, when each was twenty, he gave him a team, and rented him land, but the boy had to buy his own harness and farm implements. That the plan was a good one is shown by the fact that they all have been successful, and the aggregate of acres owned by them is 1501. Mr. Harms carries a good grade

of horses, cattle and hogs, and is a successful farmer and excellent business man.

Like the parents of both, Mr. and Mrs. Harms are connected with the Lutheran Church, and they take an active part in its good works. Mr. Harms believe in the principles of Democracy, but usually votes for the man he believes best fitted for the place in question. He is honest, hardworking and industrious, and the success which has attended his efforts has certainly been well merited.

HARTER, James, a prosperous merchant and leading citizen of Long Point, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Reading Township, in the same county, July 24, 1868, being a son of Josephus and Mary (Coulter) Harter, natives of Indiana. His parents settled in Reading Township in 1866, locating on a farm of eighty acres. Subsequently the father became the owner of 260 acres in the same locality, of which he still retains 160. On this land he has followed general farming, besides raising considerable livestock. Success has always attended his efforts, and his record has been that of a diligent, careful and thorough farmer, and a useful member of the community. Politically, Josephus Harter is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Christian church. They had five sons and three daughters, and of these six are still living, all connected with the same religious denomination.

The education of James Harter was obtained in the common schools, his youth and early manhood being passed on the paternal farm. For several years he was engaged in farming, and in 1904 moved to Long Point, Ill., where he established himself in the mercantile trade. In this undertaking he has been very successful, having gained a large and profitable patronage. While farming he operated a corn-sheller and threshing machine for twelve years.

On January 8, 1896, Mr. Harter was united in marriage with Jessie Bradley, who was born in Reading Township, Livingston County, a daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (Wright) Bradley. Mr. and Mrs. Harter are natives, respectively, of Rochester, Ind., and of a farming community near Washington, Pa. Her father was one of the early settlers of the Township.

In politics, James Harter is a supporter of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is identified with the M. W. A. and the K. of P. He is a man of good business qualifications, attends closely to the interests of his store, and has won an enviable reputation for honest and equitable dealing. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harter are members of the Christian church.

HARTER, Lewis J., who is successfully engaged in the hardware and implement trade at Long Point, Livingston County, Ill., under the firm name of Harter & Jahnke, was born in Huntington County, Ind., May 11, 1865. He is a son of Josephus and Mary (Coulter) Harter, natives of that State, who settled in Reading Township, Livingston County, in 1866. Josephus



L. P. Morris and Family

Harter is a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, and by diligence, good management and integrity, acquired 260 acres of land in Reading Township. Of this he still owns 160 acres. He is a man of high character and is much respected among his fellow townsmen. In politics he is identified with the Republican party, and he and his family are communicants of the Christian church. Eight children were born to them, of whom five were sons, two of whom are deceased.

The youth of Lewis J. Harter was passed on his father's farm, and his education was received in the district schools in the vicinity of his home. For several years after reaching maturity he was engaged in farming, and while following this occupation, operated a threshing machine and a corn-sheller, the former for fourteen years, and the latter eighteen years. In March, 1903, he took up his residence at Long Point, Ill., and, in partnership with Frubert Jahnke, went into the hardware and implement business. The trade of the concern has grown to such an extent that the quantity of goods now sold is double that handled at the outset. Mr. Harter is careful, attentive and reliable in his transactions, and enjoys the confidence and respect of his patrons.

The marriage of Mr. Harter took place February 12, 1891, on which date he was wedded to Cornelia J. Baldwin, a native of Osage Township, LaSalle County, Ill., and daughter of John and Kittie (Dean) Baldwin. Mrs. Harter's father was English by nativity, and her mother born in Tremont, Ill. They settled in LaSalle County, Ill., about the year 1862, where Mr. Baldwin carried on farming, dying there July 11, 1907. His widow died in LaSalle County September 15, 1907.

In politics, Mr. Harter is a Republican, and fraternally, is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, having joined that order in 1893. He has also been connected with the Royal Neighbors since 1906. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

HAYES, Henry B.—The successful cultivation of the land and the raising of blooded stock are two lines of business activity that are engrossing the attention of many of the very best men of Illinois. From its location, Livingston County is peculiarly adapted for farming pursuits, and Henry B. Hayes, general farmer and stock-raiser on Section 2, Long Point Township, has been exceedingly fortunate. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, September 14, 1864, a son of Daniel L. and Susanna (Worley) Hayes, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Shelby County, Ohio. The father was born September 11, 1826, and the mother May 8, 1826. His father died when Daniel B. was only nine years old, and the lad was reared by strangers in Pennsylvania until he was fourteen. He and his brother then went to Shelby County, Ohio, and began working by the month on a farm. The bright young fellow made friends and on March 8, 1882, he married, and then bought eighty acres of land in Shelby County, which he cleared, and

made of it a good farm. In his time he helped to clear off four sections of land, and saw it all transformed into good farms. He remained in Shelby County until 1881, when he sold his interests and moved to Berry County, Mich., where he bought eighty acres of improved land, with a fine apple orchard. However, in 1886 he sold his Michigan home and went to Hall County, Neb., where Henry B. had gone in 1885. Reaching this new field, he bought 207 acres of improved land, and there made his home until 1896, when he left the farm to move to Grand Island, Neb., where he died in March, 1903. His wife had died February 11, 1896. Both were Cumberland Presbyterians, and both were active in educational matters. He was well posted in local and national matters, a stanch Republican, and very fond of discussing political issues in the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hayes had children as follows: Joanna, wife of William Finerock of Woodland, Mich., born January 18, 1853; Prudence, born May 26, 1854, wife of Thomas Stewart of Hennepin County, Minn.; Rebecca, born January 19, 1856, died March 30, 1856; Mary C., born August 7, 1858, wife of Jacob J. Fessler a farmer in Peoria County, Ill.; Amy, born July 18, 1860, wife of Lewis Upperman, of Grand Island, Neb.; Susanna, born March 16, 1862, died June 27, 1863; Henry B., born September 14, 1864.

The boyhood days of Henry B. Hayes were spent in Shelby County, Ohio, and there he attended district school and worked on the farm. At the age of sixteen he went with his parents to Michigan, and remained with them until his marriage, March 30, 1884, with Emma F. Keiser, also born in Shelby County, Ohio, September 7, 1866, a daughter of William and Eva (Sherer) Keiser. Her father was born in Germany and came to America when a child, settling in Montgomery County, Ohio, and then moved to Shelby County. Her mother was a native of Pennsylvania, and both were farmers and remained in Shelby County until their death, the father dying in July and the mother in September, 1881. Both were German Baptists and true Christian people, and were greatly beloved for their many excellent traits of character. They had twelve children, four sons and eight daughters, only three of whom are now left: David Keiser, of Shelby County; Mary, wife of Mart. Peterson of Bloomer, Ohio; Jacob W., who died at the age of seventeen; two daughters who died in infancy; Susan, wife of Lewis Christian of Woodland, Mich., but is now deceased, leaving two children, Lawrence and Forest; Martha Dorcas, wife of Allen Martin, a farmer near Bradford, Ohio, left two children, Ora and Edith; Miranda, deceased wife of John Miller, left one child, Cora; Ida, deceased wife of Thomas Lyons, died August 17, 1908; John A., deceased, left five children, Maud, Allen, Estella, Otto and Raymond, of Bradford, Ohio; William, deceased, left two children, Nora and Roy.

After their marriage at Woodland, Mich., Mr. and Mrs. Hayes farmed in Michigan, and then

in February, 1885, removed to Grand Island, Neb., bought eighty acres of land in Hall County, which was in an uncultivated state. They brought this land into a good degree of improvement, remaining on it until 1898, when they removed from Nebraska to Peoria County, Ill., where they rented land until 1900. For the next five years they rented in Long Point Township, Livingston County. In that year Mr. Hayes sold his Nebraska farm, and bought 124 acres on Section 23, Long Point Township. He has made many improvements on his farm, and now has one of the best in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have had three children: Forest L., born at Woodland, Mich., August 28, 1885, married Hilda Girard, born in Long Point Township, a daughter of a farmer, and they have one child, Naoma F., born February 8, 1908; Cora B., born June 17, 1887, near Grand Island, Neb., one of the successful teachers of Livingston County; Arthur D., born near Grand Island, Neb., February 24, 1889. The children have been given good, common school educations. Mrs. Hayes and daughter, Miss Cora, are active members of the Christian Church of Long Point, although Mrs. Hayes was brought up a German Baptist, but on the organization of the Christian Church in this locality she joined it. Mr. Hayes is a member of the M. W. A. of Long Point, and Mrs. Hayes is a member of the Royal Neighbors. In politics, Mr. Hayes is a Republican and he has always taken an active part in local affairs, supporting what he believes will be for the best interests of the community. Both sides of the family lived to ripe old age, the paternal grandmother of Mr. Hayes having been 106 years old at the time of her death, and the maternal grandmother of Mrs. Hayes having been 105 when she passed away.

HEEREN, Heye F., a prosperous retired farmer and extensive land-owner in Livingston County, Ill., all of whose accumulations are the result of his own industry, perseverance and thrifty management, is a native of Germany, where he was born January 24, 1844. His parents, Harry and Webke (Franzen) Heeren, passed their entire lives in that country, where they reared a family of three sons and five daughters, of whom two sons and two daughters are still living. Mr. Heeren received his education in the public schools of Germany and served three years as a soldier in the German army. In 1870 he came to the United States, proceeding directly to Illinois, and on May 24, 1870, began working by the month in Nebraska Township, Livingston County. After continuing in this employment five years, he bought eighty acres of land in that township, which he cultivated for a while and then sold out, going west and spending several years in Iowa and Nebraska. Returning to Livingston County in 1893, he purchased 240 acres of land in Nebraska Township, and on this built a fine barn and made other improvements. Besides this farm, he is the owner of 160 acres in Iroquois County, Ill., and another 160-acre tract in Rooks

Creek Township, Livingston County. On the home place, in addition to general farming, he has devoted his attention to raising stock, breeding Belgian and Percheron horses.

On April 14, 1875, Mr. Heeren was married to Dena Hemphkin, a daughter of Frank and Hilda (Ummen) Hemphkin, who was born in Germany, where her parents passed all of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Heeren became the parents of six children as follows: Herman, deceased; a second Herman and an infant, both deceased; Frederick, Anna, and Heye T. In politics, Mr. Heeren is a Republican, and has held the offices of School Trustee and Road Commissioner. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

HEIBULT, John, who has been successfully engaged in farming in the vicinity of the village of Flanagan, Livingston County, Ill., for nearly twenty-eight years, and is classed as one of the most thorough, energetic and prosperous farmers in his locality, was born in Germany, on October 11, 1856, a son of Claus and Dorothea Magdalena (Hardess) Heibult, natives of Germany, where the father's birth took place in 1835, and that of the mother in 1840. Claus Heibult, a farmer by occupation, is still living in Germany, his wife having passed away.

In the fatherland John Heibult attended the public schools, growing up on the home farm. When he reached the age of twenty-four years in 1867, he emigrated to the United States and located in Livingston County, Nebraska Township, working by the month for John Park for one year, rented land until 1880, when he bought a farm. The property consists of 249 acres of land, well improved and in excellent condition, and here, besides his general farming operations, he devotes his attention to breeding a fine grade of horses. In this line his labors have been rewarded by the best results. He also rents eighty acres on which he now lives.

The marriage of Mr. Heibult took place in Germany, on April 19, 1879, when Wubke F. Gerdes became his wife. She was a daughter of Frank and Flossie (Seifkerts) Gerdes. They were born in Germany and both died there. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Heibult has been the source of four children, namely: Frank J.; Lena, wife of George Feather; Herman and Tena.

On political issues Mr. Heibult ranges himself on the side of the Republican party and has been School Director many years. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church, in which he is Trustee.

HEINEN, Denis M., an industrious, thorough and honorably disposed farmer in the north-western portion of Livingston County, Ill., known and respected by all the residents of his locality, is successfully engaged in operating 160 acres of land belonging to him in Dwight Township. Mr. Heinen is a native of LaSalle County, Ill., where his birth took place August 20, 1865. His father, Peter Heinen, was a German by nativity, and for



S. P. Morris

three years served as a soldier in the German Army. In the old country he was inured to farm work, and when he emigrated to the United States in 1853, he followed the same occupation. After being employed in New York State for a year, as a farm hand in summer and a timber-cutter in winter, he journeyed to Illinois, where he hired out for two years to a minister named Mudge, living near LaSalle. Subsequently, he farmed on rented land in the same vicinity. Moving with his family to Dwight Township, Livingston County, in the fall of 1868, he purchased 120 acres of unbroken prairie-land, which he put under cultivation, building a dwelling and barn, and otherwise greatly improving it. His wife, Sarah Heinen, died in 1869, a victim of typhoid fever, and his only daughter, Mary, a little child, dying simultaneously, was committed to the earth with her mother, in the same grave. Peter Heinen kept on toiling, and in course of time, with the help of the subject of this sketch and that of his brother, John E., who is now a prominent farmer in the same neighborhood, increased his landed possessions to 360 acres. After the death of his first wife he was twice married, the name of second wife being Anna, and the third being Kate McNally, who now lives with Mr. Heinen. The father departed this life in 1901. He was a consistent member of the Catholic Church, and in politics, a firm Democrat, serving as Road Commissioner and School Director. Besides John E., Denis M. and Mary, the parents had one other child, Michael, who is deceased.

Denis M. Heinen attended the district schools in boyhood when opportunity offered, but his educational advantages were not abundant. He was accustomed to herd cattle over the prairies for his father, going to school whenever he could. He grew up on the home place, working together with his father until the latter's death. He is the owner of 160 acres of the homestead property, on which he is building barns, etc., and making other necessary improvements.

At Chicago, on April 18, 1898, Mr. Heinen was married to Mary Dwyer, born in Scammon, Kan., March 26, 1875. Mrs. Heinen's parents, who were natives of Ireland, died when she was very young, and she was reared by her uncle, Patrick O'Day, a farmer in Illinois. Mr. Heinen and his worthy wife have three children, namely: Isabel, born October 4, 1899; Louis, born November 17, 1901; and Mary, born September 23, 1905. In the matter of politics, Mr. Heinen takes an independent course, and is not actively interested in party contests. He and Mrs. Heinen are members of the Catholic Church.

HEINEN, John E., an enterprising and thrifty farmer of strong common sense, sound practical information and unquestioned honesty, who owns and operates a well improved farm of 200 acres of land in Dwight Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in LaSalle County, the same State, September 15, 1861, a son of Peter and Sarah Heinen, the former born near the River Rhine, Germany, in 1828, and the latter a native of

Ireland. Peter Heinen attended the public schools of the fatherland, and later followed farm work there, being also, for three years, in the German army. In 1853 he came to the United States, working, the first year after his arrival, on farms in New York State during the summer, and in the winter cutting timber at seventy-five cents per day. The next year he located near LaSalle, Ill., being employed there for two years by Rev. Mr. Mudge, and afterwards renting land. In the fall of 1868 he moved his family to Dwight Township, Livingston County, and bought 120 acres of raw prairie, on which he put up buildings and made other improvements. In the memorable "wet year" (1869), he sold just 150 bushels of corn. With the help of his sons, he increased his land holdings until, at the time of his death, he owned 360 acres. In 1869 his first wife, Sarah, died of typhoid fever, her little daughter, Mary, expiring at the same time, and being buried with her in the same coffin. Peter Heinen married again, his second wife, Anna Heinen, also dying. Later, he was married for the third time, wedding Kate McNally, who still survives, making her home with her step-son, Denis Heinen. Besides John E., the children of the first marriage were: Denis, aforesaid, a farmer in Dwight Township; and Michael and Mary, deceased. In religion, Peter Heinen was a Catholic, and in politics a Democrat. He was an upright and useful citizen, and rendered faithful public service as School Director and Road Commissioner. His death occurred in 1901. John E. Heinen attended the common schools and completed his education in the Dwight High School, helping his father on the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-eight years. At that period he assisted the latter in making a 160-acre addition to the homestead, and carried on the farming operations in conjunction with him until death terminated the partnership in 1901. His share of the paternal estate was 200 acres, which he has thoroughly tilled and is constantly improving.

On March 1, 1892, Mr. Heinen was joined in wedlock, at Wenona, LaSalle County, Ill., with Mary Comiskey, who was born in that county November 25, 1859. Mrs. Heinen is a daughter of James and Bridget Comiskey, early settlers of LaSalle County, where he was the owner of more than 600 acres of land at the time of his death. Five children blessed this union, as follows: Mamie E., born March 20, 1893; Frances D., born August 1, 1895; Veronia, born April 4, 1897; John Leo, born March 23, 1899, and Agnes Cecelia, born December 29, 1905.

The political sentiment of Mr. Heinen is in harmony with the policies of the Republican party, and his fellow-townsmen have shown their confidence in him and appreciation of his merit, by electing him successively School Director and Road Commissioner. His religious connection, as also that of his amiable wife, is with the Catholic Church.

HERCULES, C., one of the oldest and most highly esteemed residents of Pontiac, Ill., a gal-

lant veteran of the Civil War, long a useful member of the community, and recognized by his fellow citizens as a most worthy example of the true Christian gentleman, was born in Warren County, Ohio, April 3, 1827. He is a son of William and Elizabeth Hercules, natives of Pennsylvania, who moved to Ohio at an early period in the last century, and there both passed the remainder of their lives. C. Hercules was reared on a farm, and in early youth attended the district schools in his vicinity, afterwards learning the carpenters' trade, and subsequently becoming a bridge carpenter. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G., One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in the engagement at Burnt Hickory, Ga., where he lost his left arm. Mr. Hercules has lived in Pontiac, Ill., since 1856, and up to the time of his retirement from active pursuits, mostly followed the occupation of a carpenter, being also engaged, for a part of the time, as collector. He is the owner of a fine residence at No. 726, east Howard Street, which he occupies with his family in comfort and contentment, resting in the satisfaction that follows a life honorably and usefully spent.

Mr. Hercules was married to Jane Elizabeth Farhner, a native of Pennsylvania. Twelve children are the offspring of this union, of whom nine are still living. In politics, Mr. Hercules has been a Republican since the organization of that party. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. He has always taken an earnest and active interest in the prosperity of Pontiac, and has been helpful in charitable and philanthropic movements, and in all undertakings calculated to promote the welfare of his fellowmen. For many years his religious faith was that of the Presbyterian denomination, but he is now a communicant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is deeply respected by all classes in the community.

HERR, Stephen, organizer and proprietor of the Citizens' Bank, of Chatsworth, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Baden, Germany, December 9, 1842, a son of Sebastian and Josephine (Stuckle) Herr. The father, who was a stonemason by trade, came to this country and settled in Tazewell County, Ill., in 1856, his half-brother, John Roshard, having previously located in that county. The voyage across the Atlantic was made on a sailing vessel, consuming three months between Havre and New Orleans. Then he continued up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and on the Illinois River to Peoria, journeying nearly 5,000 miles by water. Sebastian Herr applied himself to farm work for a year, and his son Stephen came to the same locality and worked for \$4.25 per month and board. In 1860, the mother, together with her son Hermann, and her two daughters, Theresa and Bertha, joined them, living in Tazewell County until 1869. After laboring as a farm hand for some time, Stephen Herr started out for himself on rented land, and in the last named year, bought 160 acres

in Section 18, Fayette Township, Livingston County, eighteen miles southwest of Chatsworth, on the county line. The purchase price of this tract—which was all raw prairie—was \$13 per acre, and he had but \$1,000 to invest. He built a dwelling, and convenient barns for stock and grain, and in 1874, added 160 acres to his place, paying for it \$25 per acre. In 1892 he removed to a 400-acre farm north of Chatsworth and adjoining the corporate limits, which he had purchased in 1889, at a cost of \$20,000. This farm he operated until 1903, when he took up his residence in the village, establishing the Citizens' Bank January 1, 1904. Since that period he has devoted his whole attention to the banking business, still retaining possession of his two farms. He was one of the first to begin tiling in this locality, and both of his farms are now thoroughly tiled. Others soon followed his example in this respect, the advantages of tiling in a flat country having been clearly demonstrated by his efforts. The banking enterprise of Mr. Herr has been a successful one, having for its basis all his financial resources. The subject of this sketch was one of the charter members in the organization of Lafayette Township, and nearly all his contemporaries have passed away. The township still owns its school section, the income from which nearly meets the expenses of the schools. For years he was on the Board of Trustees.

On August 8, 1865, Mr. Herr was married to Henrietta Wageman, also of German nativity, and nineteen years old at the time of her marriage. Mrs. Herr is a woman of fine traits of character, and has shared her husband's struggles with noble fidelity. Eight children were born to their union, as follows: John S., who operated the Chatsworth farm; Frank H. and Ed B. respectively cashier and assistant cashier in their father's bank; Stephen S., a student in Notre Dame University, at South Bend, Ind.; Jesse James, a pupil in the parochial school in Chatsworth; Katie, a sister in the Notre Dame institution at Milwaukee; Mary, who is at home; and Emma, who was assistant cashier in the Citizens' Bank, and died at the age of 29 years. All were reared in the faith of the Catholic church, and were originally members of St. Rose church at Strawn, Ill., but for years have been connected with the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Chatsworth. Mr. Herr has traveled considerably in the United States, and, in 1899, went to Germany and visited the house where he was born, afterwards making a tour of Switzerland, France, England, Scotland and Ireland.

In politics, Mr. Herr is a Republican of a very pronounced type, but his political action has always been devoid of selfishness. In every relation of life, he has faithfully done his duty. He made a good home for his parents in the declining period of their lives, the father dying at the age of eighty-two years, and the mother when seventy-seven years old. His brother Hermann, and his eldest sister, Theresa, are liv-



Mrs S. P. Morris.

ing in Kansas, while the home of Bertha, the younger sister, is in Ohio.

HICK, Richard W.—Existence during the pioneer days of Livingston County was entirely different from what it is at present. In that struggle in which man pitted himself against primeval forest and all the hardships incident to the developing of wild land into fertile farms and flourishing cities, the strongest types of manhood and womanhood were evolved. While there were many disadvantages and dangerous hardships in such a life, there also were many compensations. The light of the tallow-dip had not the brilliancy of electric light, but it ever shone to light the wandering traveler to the hospitable log cabin, where before the open fireplace he was made one of the family and shared the meal which many times was prepared from wild game shot by the host in the vicinity of his home. Even if it was necessary to keep the trusty gun within easy reach, it was only needed to defend the family against Indians or wild animals, for neighbors in those days did not war against each other. Each year the circle is contracting; the number within it grows less and less, and soon there will be none left of those pioneers who are so closely identified with the early history of the county. One of those deserving of special mention is Richard W. Hick, now retired, and living at Long Point, Livingston County. Mr. Hick was born in Floyd, Oneida County, N. Y., August 7, 1836, a son of the Rev. Richard and Agnes (Schanck) Hick. Rev. Richard Hick was born in Devonshire, England, but came to America at the age of eighteen and settled in Floyd, N. Y., where, on November 10, 1825, he married. Mrs. Hick was born February 26, 1806, at Elizabethtown, N. J. Mr. Hick had been educated in England for the ministry in the Methodist church, and after his marriage was placed upon the regular circuit and remained there until 1836. During their residence in Floyd, Mr. and Mrs. Hick had the following children: Ruth Ann, born in 1827, died in Wabash County, Ill., in 1840; Richardson S., born January 20, 1829, is a prominent lawyer and State's Attorney of Kansas; Hester, born July 21, 1830, married John Coleman, both died and are buried at Ancona, Ill.; Mary, born May 11, 1833, married Delos Wright, both being deceased and buried at Ancona; John, born June 6, 1834, died and is buried at Ancona; Richard W., born August 7, 1836. When the latter was six weeks old, the family left New York and came to Mt. Carmel, Ill., via the Erie Canal, the lakes and Ohio River. When a change was made from the canal boat, the baby was forgotten in the confusion, but was discovered and restored to his almost frantic mother. The family settled in Mt. Carmel, and there the following children were born: Sybilla, born May 19, 1839, died April 24, 1843; Agnes H., born October 25, 1841, married William Deever, who lost his life in defense of his country after the death of his wife in 1861, and his body lies somewhere in the South; Laura E., born August

27, 1845, is the widow of Daniel Coe, and she resides in Long Point.

In 1848, the Rev. Mr. Hicks left Wabash County, and settled in Kendall County, Ill., where he rented a farm, and remained until his death, August 14, 1849. For two years the family remained on the farm and in 1851 came to Reading Township, Livingston County, and settled on Section 29. Mrs. Hick, with her three sons and three daughters, entered eighty acres of land which became known as the Higbee farm, and on it the Hick family began their pioneer life in Livingston County. The three boys cut the logs, split out the lumber siding and shingles, and built the clap-board house that was their first home in the county. So well did they do this that our subject obtained work on the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad during the winters of 1851-52. At this time wild game was plentiful and the deer were so tame they would come into the barn-yard. The mother not only did all of the housework, but made the clothing and the cloth. She manufactured the candles, made all of the soap, put up the wild fruit as best she could in those days, and was noted all over the county for her excellent housewifery. This was not accomplished without hard, unremitting labor, and her spinning wheel was often kept running until midnight. She used to knit socks and sell them at the stores in Reading, Ill.

As they grew older, however, the family separated, and R. S. Hick went to Pontiac and practiced law. The old home was sold and Mr. Hick can yet recall the pangs of homesickness he suffered after the family had been divided. Among other pleasant recollections of the time are the trips made to Ottawa with grain. Upon one occasion, the journey nearly resulted in a tragedy, when a little party of seven tried to ford the swollen Vermilion River, but fortunately all escaped, though it taught Mr. Hick a lesson and he never attempted to ford the river in deep water again.

On April 1, 1857, Mr. Hick married Miss Sarah A. Evans, who was born in Long Point Township, in Section 34, April 29, 1839. She is a daughter of John and Deborah (Radcliff) Evans, natives of Virginia, who went to Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Evans was born April 5, 1796, and came to Illinois in 1834, settling on Section 4, Long Point Township. They were among the first settlers in the township, and gave the ground and made the original plat of the Long Point Cemetery, one of the most beautiful burial grounds in Livingston County. Emily Evans, a daughter of John and Deborah Evans, born October 21, 1819, and died August 26, 1838, was the first to be buried in this cemetery. John Evans was a soldier of the War of 1812, and died January 3, 1854, his wife dying on August 14th, of the same year. While not a member of any church, he was a good Christian, and a great reader of the Bible.

The Evans home, which was in a log house where Mrs. Hick was born, was the stopping

place for all the circuit riders of pioneer days. These circuit riders went from charge to charge on horseback, and would hold church in the various log houses of the neighborhood. To this simple service people came for miles around, eager to participate in the too-seldom held religious services.

The family born to John and Deborah Evans, was as follows: Deborah, born February 10, 1822, married William Graham, a soldier of the Mexican War and both are now deceased and buried in Long Point Cemetery; Jackson, born August 5, 1828, was a soldier in the Civil War and died in Independence, Kan.; Benjamin, born February 15, 1830, served during the entire War and is buried in Cato, Kan.; William H., born October 1, 1836, also served in the Civil War, was in the great March to the Sea with Sherman, received his honorable discharge at the close of the war and died October 7, 1904, at Corona, Cal.; and Mrs. Hick, born April 29, 1839, who is the only one left of this pioneer family. She is a cousin of the Rev. J. G. Evans of the Methodist church.

On April 1, 1862, Mr. and Mrs. Hick bought 160 acres on Section 33, Reading Township, paying therefor eight dollars per acre. It was wild prairie land covered with heavy grass. Their first home was a clap board house, 14x16 feet, and the kitchen, diningroom and bedroom were all in one, but this house has been replaced by a commodious modern structure in which they made their home until the fall of 1908, when they retired to Long Point. To their original purchase of 160 acres they added until they now own 248 acres in this county, and they have so improved the property, that it is one of the most valuable in Livingston County. Among other improvements have been the setting out of a large orchard and many ornamental trees and shrubs. They also own 160 acres in Pipestone County, Minn.

The family born to Mr. and Mrs. Hick is as follows: John F., born April 22, 1864, married Mrs. Fanny (Bonner) Sedenburg, and they had one child, Lewis, when she died, and he married Miss Emma Sangster, by whom he had one son, Russell; John F. Hick, who was killed at Monmouth, Ill., December 7, 1896, while in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad, having just been notified of his promotion to the head of the office, when he was run over and killed. George Richard, born November 29, 1869, died July 10, 1904, from grief over his brother's death. The affection existing between the two brothers was so strong that he was not able to recover from the shock, although his parents took him to various points in Colorado and California, hoping to divert him. Both young men were exemplary Christians, and the whole community joined with the parents in mourning their death in the prime of life. The other four children died in infancy.

For fifty-eight years Mr. and Mrs. Hick have been closely identified with the progress of Livingston County, and for forty-three years they have been members of the Christian church. They have the honor of being the oldest living settlers of Reading Township; and, in looking back

over their happy married life, they feel that about the only thing that has not changed is their mutual love. Ever since the formation of the Republican party, Mr. Hick has been one of its stalwart supporters, and in 1908 he delayed his removal to Long Point in order to vote for William H. Taft, and the other candidates of the party.

HIERONYMUS, Benjamin (deceased).—The late Benjamin Hieronymus was a prominent and highly respected farmer of Livingston County, and an old resident of Belle Prairie Township. He built up for himself a lasting reputation as one who possessed in marked degree most excellent personal traits of character. Upright and honorable in his business transactions, and imbued with that generous public spirit that was always ready to assist in whatever was calculated to promote the welfare of his county and community, it is small wonder that he attracted to himself many friends, or that his demise was sincerely mourned by the citizens of the entire township, as well as many outside its confines who had been honored by his acquaintance.

The family history shows that the name is found in the records of Germany many centuries back, the first of whom there is any definite knowledge being a minister, Sophronius Eusebius Hieronymus, who died at the advanced age of ninety years. The founder of the family in the New World came from Germany in 1765 and settled in the Blue Ridge region in Virginia, but in 1804 removed to Kentucky where he died in 1831. His great-grandson was William, and his grandson Benjamin, whose life this biography commemorates. William Hieronymus married Elvira Darnell, and both were natives of Virginia.

The birth of the late Benjamin Hieronymus occurred in Kentucky, January 13, 1818, and ten years later he was brought to Logan County, Ill., and endured all of the privations incident to pioneer life, learning early the stern lessons of necessity. In 1839 he located in Livingston County and on September 19th, of the same year, married Miss Alvira M. Darnell, a daughter of Valentine M. and Rachel (Steers) Darnell, natives of Virginia and Ohio respectively. She was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1822. The Darnell family came to Livingston County in 1830, locating in Indian Grove Township at a time when they were almost the only settlers in this part of the country. Two tribes of Indians, however, occupied much of the land, the Pottawatomies and the Kickapoos. There were about 400 of them, and their chief was Shabona. Mrs. Hieronymus was only eight years old when the family established itself in this township, but she remembered clearly the exciting events of those days all her life and often held her descendants enthralled by her stories. This was before the passage of the act which dispossessed the Indians.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hieronymus settled in Indian Grove, and gradually added to their holdings until, at the time of the death of

Mr. Hieronymus, he owned 600 acres of excellent farming land, all of which was in a high state of cultivation. Much of his attention was devoted to stock-raising, and, as he was a lover of horses and thoroughly understood their breeding and care, he made a success in handling them. For many years he was one of the leaders in the Christian Church and conscientiously tried to live according to the teachings of his Master. When the summons came January 30, 1885, he was ready, knowing that he was fully prepared and realizing that he left behind him an unsullied name and a lasting record for probity and uprightness. His wife survived him until March 24, 1900, when she, too, died, happy in the consciousness of a life well spent in the service of the church and her family. Mr. and Mrs. Hieronymus were the parents of the following children: William H.; Jasper, who married Alvira Travis and resides on a part of the old homestead; Elizabeth, who married Charles H. Westervelt who owns the original homestead; three children who died in infancy; and Martin and Emeline who died after reaching maturity.

No mere words can express the influence for good upon a community, wrought by the lives of two noble characters like those of Benjamin Hieronymus and his wife. They reared their family in the fear of the Lord, gave them good educations and left them well provided for in this world's goods. Whenever and wherever they could they gave to the poor, lifted the fallen and comforted the afflicted, and no other monument is needed for them than the memory of their good deeds.

HIERONYMUS, William H.—To-day, gliding along over an almost perfect roadbed, leaning back in a comfortable car-seat, the traveler through Central Illinois has but a faint appreciation of what such a journey meant to the pioneer before modern invention profited by the explorations and privations of those sturdy fore-runners of civilization that made possible the luxury of the twentieth century. The man of the '30s who sought a home in the now "Garden Spot of the World," Central Illinois, made his slow way sometimes on foot, or with a wagon sometimes drawn by oxen, loaded down with all he possessed, including wife and children, through forests that seemed endless; crossed rivers that threatened to sweep away the little party at each eddy of the current; braved the terrors of Indian attack and death from wild animals. He took months to accomplish what is now done in as many hours, but he builded for the future and for himself an everlasting monument of the gratitude of all coming generations.

The records of Livingston County show several families specially prominent in its initial settlement and development, and, perhaps, of them all none are more worthy of mention than those bearing the names of Hieronymus and Darnell. The latter settled about 1830 when the Indians still possessed the land, but the head of this family being a wise, as well as good, man, made

friends of the still half-savage Indians and, after they were thrust further west by Act of Congress, these same Indians often returned to the Darnell home as visitors, especially in the springtime when sugar making insured them plenty of sweets. These visits oftentimes caused considerable trouble because of the failure on the part of the Indians to appreciate proper rights, and it required all of Mr. Darnell's diplomacy to prevent a rupture between his sometimes unwelcome guests and his neighbors.

William H. Hieronymus, residing on Section 5, Belle Prairie Township, is a grandson on the maternal side of this pioneer Darnell, and a son of Benjamin Hieronymus, who married Alvira Darnell. He was born November 23, 1840, on this same section, where he has always lived and contributed largely towards the development of its natural resources and its expansion into a most desirable portion of Livingston County. Benjamin Hieronymus was born in Madison County, Ky., while his wife was born in Boone County the same State. Benjamin was a son of William, the elder, and was born January 11, 1818. The Hieronymus family in 1828 came to Tazewell County, Ill., settling in what was afterwards called Hieronymus Grove, being one of the pioneers of that locality.

The early history of William H. Hieronymus is that of his township. Born soon after his father's settlement in what was then Indian Grove Township, he recalls with pleasure the exciting events of those days. While the Indians no longer infested the neighborhood as unfriendly foes, they were constant visitors and as common as the deer and wolves that preyed upon the cattle. While it was difficult to secure an education in those days, such instruction as was offered was eagerly seized upon by the ambitious young boys and girls, who endured untold privations trudging to school miles through the deep snows in those faraway winters. Mr. Hieronymus draws delightful mind pictures of the little primitive log cabin schoolhouse in which he learned the fundamental principles upon which he has built his education. Listening to his words it is not difficult to imagine the quaint rough logs and chimney of mud and sticks on the outside, or the slabs inside. The pupils then sat on seats made of logs, while the writing table was a slab hewn by the axe of some public-spirited father. An open fireplace furnished heat; greased paper took the place of glass in the couple of windows, and a rude cupboard at one end held fuel and dinner baskets. The teacher, usually some future statesman still pursuing his own studies, was oftentimes unable to manage the great, strong frontier boys, and was forced to call upon some of his pupils for assistance. Occasionally, though, the one chosen as assistant, proved more a friend of pupil than teacher and notched the switch he was sent to procure. However, teacher and pupils formed lasting friendships and both profited by the association. The first teacher of Mr. Hieronymus was a Miss Jenkins, whom he remembers with respect. This

was long before the establishment of the present public school system and the schools were what was then known as subscription schools, each parent paying a certain amount for every child.

His school days ended, Mr. Hieronymus began doing a man's work on the farm of his father, which was a very large one, and he early learned how to be a good farmer and successful stock raiser. His father had bought a large tract of land from the Government paying \$1.25 per acre. This land is now worth \$200 per acre. The advance in price is due to the efforts of these pioneers who redeemed the wilderness. Among other interesting facts Mr. Hieronymus mentions relative to those early days, is the fact that all taxes were paid in gold or silver, owing to the insecurity of paper currency. One man went the rounds collecting the taxes throughout the county, and carried the paper to Pontiac, where the bank there charged twenty-five cents on each dollar for exchange into gold of the depreciated paper money. Some idea of values in those days can be gained from the fact that \$500 was sufficient to defray the taxes of the entire county of Livingston.

Another matter of interest is, that wheat was then cut with a "cradle" as it was called, and Benjamin Hieronymus, who was a mechanical genius, invented a machine by means of which the chaff was separated from the grain. When the Darnells settled in the county, the nearest mill was at Springfield, but, by the time William H. Hieronymus was old enough to go with his father, there was a mill at Kankakee. Young William was also taken to Chicago, then not more than a town, and he remembers well when wheat sold there for fifty cents a bushel. At that time salt was \$5 per barrel. Now wheat is \$1.10 per bushel, and salt only ninety-five cents per barrel. At Pontiac there was constructed what was then known as a horse-power mill, two stories in height, so arranged that the machinery could be propelled by a horse. Today, flour is bought from the merchant in barrel or sack, and yet in the mind of Mr. Hieronymus and many like him, much has been lost that then made life pleasant, while, of course, there have been great gains on every side.

William H. Hieronymus was married on January 27, 1897, to Miss Eliza Lytle, born February 17, 1865, in the West Indies, where her parents settled after their marriage. They were Thomas and Mary J. (Doonan) Lytle, both natives of Belfast, Ireland. The mother was brought to Galesburg by her parents when a girl. The father after establishing himself in the West Indies, went to Galesburg for his bride and took her to his large ranch. However, her health became so poor, and as a sister of his had died, he sold his possessions and returned to Galesburg, finally settling in Chatsworth, Livingston County, where the father died March 24, 1904. The family then removed to Fairbury, where the mother, who still survives, now resides. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lytle were: one who died in childhood; William, of Tingley, Iowa, married Belle Gibb; Eliza; Jennie,

who married Howard Hartley, a farmer of Avoca Township; Emily, who married James A. Hartley; Letitia, who married George Jessup; Iva, who resides with her mother; Carrie, who is the widow of Benjamin Best, resides with her mother; Martin, of Tingley, Iowa; Adah, who married John Huette of Fairbury. Mr. and Mrs. Hieronymus are the parents of the following children: Florence A., born December 8, 1897; Mamie, born March 28, 1899; William Clifford, born October 30, 1901; Benjamin Lytle, born April 14, 1904.

For sixty-eight years Mr. Hieronymus has been identified with Belle Prairie, and has not only witnessed the many changes, but has participated in them. His pleasant home, built about 1899, is a modern one, and fully supplied with all conveniences and appliances. The first piece of land he owned, was inherited from his father, and contained eighty acres. To this he has added until he now owns 296 acres, all of which is under cultivation. In politics he is a Democrat and has creditably filled many of the Township offices. He and his wife are consistent members of the Christian and Presbyterian Churches, respectively. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and K. of P., and the Encampment of Odd Fellows, Fairbury, Ill.

HIERTH, Henry, a well known and much respected citizen of Pontiac, Ill., for nearly forty-five years, and a veteran of the Civil War, now virtually retired from his accustomed labors, is a native of Germany, where he was born July 25, 1844. His parents, Henry and Mary (Hepp) Hierth, were both Germans by nativity, the occupation of the former being that of a cooper. Henry Hierth, the father, had taken part in the early revolutionary movements in Germany, and at the time of the "Revolution of 1848," in which he was also concerned, emigrated to the United States, not caring to remain longer the subject of a Government then so unstable, and to have his family confronted with the hazards of successive insurrections. On arriving in this country he located in Cincinnati, Ohio, and there died in 1856, his wife passing away in 1864. Both were members of the Lutheran church. They had but one child.

Henry Hierth, Jr., to whom this narrative pertains, received his education in the public schools of Cincinnati, and in 1864 came to Illinois, locating in Pontiac. In February, 1865, he enlisted in the Ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, serving until October 31st, of the same year. On being mustered out he returned to Pontiac and secured employment as a custom shoe maker, later going into business for himself, where he continued until 1904, when he practically relinquished active pursuits. When a young man, living in Ohio, Mr. Hierth was a member of the Home Guard force which helped to drive Gen. John Morgan's troops back into Kentucky. In 1890 he built a very convenient and comfortable residence at No. 520, East Lincoln street in Pontiac. He was one of the most active workers



DS Myers.

in raising funds for the construction of the Pontiac Turner Hall.

On April 17, 1870, Mr. Hierth was united in marriage with Sophia Zeh, who was born in Germany, January 29, 1848, a daughter of Julius and Frances (Fair) Zeh, natives of that country. The parents of Mrs. Hierth came to the United States in 1850, locating in Quincy, Ill., where their last years were spent. Julius Zeh was a blacksmith and wagon-maker by trade. By the mother of Mrs. Hierth he had five children, and after her death, he married again, having two children by his second wife. All are living.

Ten children resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hierth, as follows: Anna, William and Rose, deceased; Harry, who married Bessie Ewing; Minnie, wife of Clyde Barber; Josephine, deceased; Louis, who was educated in the Pontiac High School, and is now a mail carrier in Pontiac; Edward, deceased in infancy; Fred; and Marie, whose education was received in the Pontiac High School.

Politically, Mr. Hierth is a Republican and has always taken an active part in local party contests, although never aspiring to public office. He is not a church member, but all his children are connected with some church. His only society membership is with the Grand Army of the Republic.

HIGBEE, Samuel L.—In naming the representative citizens and progressive agriculturists of Livingston County, Ill., mention should be made of Samuel L. Higbee, who owns and operates an excellent property of 207 acres, located in Long Point Township. Mr. Higbee was born May 2, 1866, on the farm which he now owns, the son of Samuel and Sarah E. (Garard) Higbee. Samuel Higbee was born at what is now Atlantic City, N. J., April 6, 1827, and in 1839, at the age of twelve years, was taken to Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio. Later he entered forty acres of heavily timbered land in that section, which he cleared and, in 1849, went to Wisconsin, where he spent two years in the pinneries. In the winter of 1851-52 he was engaged in work on the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad, driving his own team, in the fall of the latter year returning to Urbana, where he was married, September 29, 1856, to Sarah Elizabeth Garard. During the autumn of 1856, Mr. Higbee sold his property in Ohio, purchased a spring wagon, into which they loaded their family possessions, and after a long, weary trip overland, located on a rented farm near Wenona, Ill. In 1858, Mr. Higbee purchased eighty acres of land on Section 29, Reading Township, from Richard W. Hick, at which time the nearest market was at Ottawa, where Mr. Higbee was compelled to take his grain to exchange for family necessities. Energetic and enterprising, Mr. Higbee became one of the most substantial men of his section, and at the time of his death, October 16, 1902, he owned 240 acres in Section 29, 320 acres in Sumner County, Kan., and property in Alabama and in Peoria County, Ill. His widow passed away May 6, 1906. In the early days Samuel

Higbee was a Whig, but on the organization of the Republican party, he became a member of that great organization, and so continued until the time of his death. He was simple in his social relations and in his habits. The poor and needy always found in him a friend, and a friend in a practical way. The sick he considered his personal charge, and he often spent many hours with those afflicted, reading to them passages from the Bible, of which he was a great student, and helping them in many ways to forget their troubles. He had the respect and esteem of the entire community, and it is safe to say that the community was better for his having lived in it. Both he and his wife were lifelong members of the Methodist church. They were the parents of these children: Mary, who died in infancy in 1857; Charles T., born in 1858, now a resident of Jackson, Tenn.; Etta J., born in 1860, the wife of H. C. George, of Clifton, Colo.; Edwin S., born in 1864, a resident of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Samuel L.; Jessie M., the wife of Robert M. Talbot, residing on the old homestead; Sarah L., born in 1871, a resident of Chicago, Ill.; and Anna B., the wife of Frank Gahm, head of the Gahm-Dorman Manufacturing Company of Streator, Ill. All of these children were born on the home farm in Section 29, Long Point Township.

Samuel L. Higbee was educated in the public schools of his native vicinity, and, like his sisters and brothers, received an excellent education. Two brothers and three sisters became school teachers. In the fall of 1885, his father retiring from active farm life, young Higbee took charge of the place, which he operated until 1890, on September 11th of that year being married to Jennie Brumfield, born October 29, 1868, in Newtown Township, Livingston County, Ill., a daughter of Joseph and Charity (Townsend) Brumfield. Mr. Brumfield was born in Newtown Township December 2, 1836, being the first white child born in that township. He died on the farm on which he was born June 8, 1906. His wife was born near Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., October 7, 1845, married June 20, 1864, and still makes her home in Newtown Township. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brumfield, namely: Ira, born Jan. 19, 1867, died August 25, 1890; Jennie (Mrs. Higbee); Dilla, born December 30, 1870, died May 30, 1908; Minerva, born December 29, 1875, wife of William Carr, of Streator, Ill.; Olive, born March 11, 1878, wife of John Ahlgren, of Streator; and Elvin, born October 13, 1882, and resides in Streator. The mother of these children was a member of the United Brethren church. The father was a staunch Republican in political matters, and filled various offices. He was of a retiring nature, but a great reader and brilliant conversationalist, congenial and home-loving. On numerous occasions he left his home at night to take care of the sick or those who needed attention, and none ever left his door empty-handed.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Higbee settled on the old Higbee farm, but in 1896 removed to Streator, Ill., where Mr. Higbee was

engaged in the livery business. In 1897 he sold out and moved to Ancona, but in 1898 returned to the old homestead, buying out the interest of the other heirs in 1905. Mr. Higbee is well qualified to speak of the growth and development of the section. As a boy he helped to break the wild prairie and haul grain to Ottawa, and he well remembers the building of the Pekin Branch of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad. He now owns 107 acres of some of the best land in the township, and has been engaged in farming and stock raising.

Mrs. Higbee is a member of the Christian church. Prior to her marriage she was engaged in teaching school. She is socially connected with the Royal Neighbors, and is an earnest member of the W. C. T. U., while Mr. Higbee belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Odd Fellows. They have had these children: Ray, born January 5, 1892, died August 10, 1899; Ralph, born October 31, 1894, died February 23, 1895; Roy, born June 21, 1900, died February 16, 1905; and Ruth, born May 1, 1905.

HILTY, Burkhardt, a farmer in very comfortable circumstances, and much respected by all his neighbors, whose home is in Union Township, Livingston County, Ill., is a native of Switzerland, where his birth took place, May 25, 1855. His parents, Burkhardt and Margaret (Engler) Hilty, were also of Swiss nativity, and passed their entire lives in Switzerland, where the father was the owner of a small farm, on which he gained his livelihood. Their family consisted of seven children, Burkhardt Hilty, the subject of this personal record, being the only one of this number to cross the ocean. He was reared on his father's farm and, in boyhood, attended the public schools of his native land, remaining there until he was twenty-seven years of age. Then (in 1882) he came to the United States, sojourning in Chicago for the first few weeks after his arrival. He had learned the butchering trade in Switzerland, and from Chicago went to Bloomington, Ill., where he followed this occupation for two years. Thence he moved to Odell, continuing in the same line of work until 1887, when he bought the farm in Union Township, consisting of 260 acres, upon which he located in the following year. At a later period he purchased a half-interest in another piece of land containing 160 acres, situated on the opposite side of the road, in Saunemin Township. He has since carried on general farming and stock raising in this locality, and from the outset has been very successful in all his undertakings.

On November 21, 1888, Mr. Hilty was united in marriage with Agatha Eggenberger, who was born in Switzerland, and came to this country with her parents in 1876. They settled in Livingston County, where her father died several years afterward. Her mother is still living. Six children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hilty, as follows: Burkhardt and Anna,

who are pupils in the Pontiac High School; Nicholas; Margaret; John Henry and Katie.

Politically, Mr. Hilty is a supporter of the Republican party, and has rendered efficient public service as School Director. He and his faithful wife are members of the Lutheran church.

HITCH, Stephen S., whose early experience as a farmer in Livingston County, Ill., was of the most strenuous character, whose record of gallant service during the Civil War was most creditable, and who afterwards became one of the most prominent citizens of his locality, where he is now living in retirement, was born at Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire, England, April 8, 1838. His father was Robert Hitch, a farmer, who together with the mother, Mary (Sharp) Hitch, came to the United States in 1863, proceeding directly to El Paso, Ill., where the former followed his accustomed occupation throughout the remainder of his life. Both parents died at El Paso. They had a family of seven children, four of whom are living. Stephen S. Hitch was fifteen years old when he arrived in this country. He located at Washington, Ill., where he first worked as a farm hand, moved to El Paso, Woodford County, in 1854, where he resided and was engaged in farming until 1862. He had bought a farm in 1860 and sold it in 1862. In 1862, on August 27, he enlisted at El Paso, in the Fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, fighting under Gen. Grierson and other noted cavalry leaders. He was with that famous officer in his memorable raid through Mississippi, and was almost continuously under fire during the period of his active service. He was mustered out at Memphis, Tenn., June 15, 1865, having had an army career such as few privates in the great conflict ever excelled in constant and perilous activity. Mr. Hitch is a member of Eben G. Trask Post, No. 388, Grand Army of the Republic. On returning from the War he devoted his attention to farming, acquiring a handsome competency and ultimately relinquishing active exertions for a life of leisure. In 1865 he bought eighty acres on Section 4 Chatsworth Township, and in 1890 forty acres in Charlotte Township.

On June 17, 1864, Mr. Hitch was married to Henrietta Hitch, who was born in England and came to El Paso, Ill., in 1855. One son and one daughter resulted from this union, of whom the latter is deceased. The son, Dick W. Hitch, conducts the operation of the home farm. He married June 22, 1898, Miss Sadie Dann, of Chatsworth, Ill. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Alfred S., Irene Kate and Florence.

Politically, Mr. Hitch has been a Republican since the organization of that party. He served seven years as Chairman of the Oliver and Corn Grove Drainage Board; as Township Assessor one year; seven years as President of the Board of Highway Commissioners, and as a member of the Board of Education for six years. He attends religious services at the Baptist church, and

his fraternal affiliation is with the A. F. & A. M. Chatsworth Lodge No. 539.

HOBART, Gilbert J.—The life which this narrative describes began at Grafton, N. H., September 23, 1839, and closed in Livingston County, Ill., January 24, 1903. Genealogical records show that the family was established in New England in an early day and bore an honorable part in the development of that part of the country. Joshua, son of Nathan Blood Hobart, was born and reared in Vermont and married Lucy Heath, also a native of that State. During the infancy of their son Gilbert they removed as far west as Ohio, settling in Lake County where the father secured employment at the trade of a cabinet-maker. In that county he died at the age of eighty-four years, and there also occurred the death of his wife who was seventy-nine at the time of her demise.

Upon starting out to earn his own way in the world, Gilbert A. Hobart was attracted by the possibilities of Illinois, where he took up land in McLean County and began the task of converting an unimproved tract into a productive estate. Not long afterward the Civil War aroused him to a sense of his duty to the Government, and eagerly he volunteered his services to the Union. As early as July of 1861 he was accepted as a member of Company K, Eighth Illinois Infantry, with which he marched to the front and participated in many conflicts under the leadership of General Grant. At the expiration of his term of service he was honorably discharged in August, 1864, whereupon he returned to McLean County with a military record of which he might well be proud. Never did he shirk his duty as a soldier, nor did he complain of the hardships and privations of camp life.

For three years after his return from the war Mr. Hobart remained at Oldtown, McLean County, and for four years he and his brother, Charles H., owned and operated a large gristmill at Leroy, McLean County, the plant being one which had been erected under their supervision. After disposing of his interest in the mill Mr. Hobart bought a farm in Empire Township, McLean County, and there for a long period successfully followed agricultural pursuits. Eventually he received a liberal offer for his holdings and disposed of the same in February of 1888, after which he bought 320 acres in Avoca Township, Livingston County, and there remained until his death. In addition to managing his landed and stock interests, he bore an active part in local affairs, held a number of township offices and was a leading Republican of his locality. Fraternally, he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic, while in religious views he held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

The marriage of Gilbert A. Hobart and Elizabeth Dickerson was solemnized September 8, 1868. Mrs. Hobart was born near Leroy, McLean County, Ill., October 15, 1850, a daughter of Henry C. and Leodicy (Maxwell) Dickerson.

Her father was born in Whiteside County, Ill., in 1825, and died May 20, 1900. Her mother was born near Bloomington, Ill., in 1829, and now makes her home in that city. The paternal grandparents, Michael and Jane (Rutledge) Dickerson, were natives of Kentucky, and became very early settlers of Illinois. The maternal grandparents, William and Elizabeth (Evans) Maxwell, natives of Virginia, also were honored pioneers of the State. In the family of Gilbert A. and Elizabeth Hobart there are the following named children: Henry C., Bert J., William and Frank C., all of whom reside at Rockwell City, Iowa; Frederick, who remains on the old homestead; Joseph G., living at Rensselaer, Ind.; George S., of Spencer, S. Dak.; and Lucy, who resides with her mother in Pontiac, Mrs. Hobart, having left the farm in the fall of 1907, since that time has occupied a comfortable home in Pontiac.

HOLMAN, Thomas L. H.—To those fortunate enough to possess farming land in Central Illinois, this portion of the United States seems the Garden of the World, an Eden from which there is no danger of expulsion. Among those thus favored is Thomas L. H. Holman, a prosperous farmer resident of Livingston County, who resides upon his fertile farm of 205 acres, and enjoys a well-earned popularity in his Township. He is a son of Frank and Cassie (Leonard) Holman, the former born in New Jersey in 1799 and the latter in Ohio. At the age of twenty-five years Frank Holman came to Brown County and, with his brother James, rented land, later purchased a farm, and for that time and locality accumulated a large fortune. He lived to be eighty-four. His wife came of an old Brown County family, and one of her brothers defended his country during the War of 1812. After her death, the father married twice. By his first wife Frank Holman had eight children, four of whom still survive, and of them Thomas L. H. Holman is the youngest.

The birth of Thomas L. H. Holman occurred at Delapalma, Brown County, Ohio, October 10, 1834, and he remained there until 1856 when he removed to La Salle County, Ill., where for six years he farmed with his brother, and then in 1871 located on his present property in Livingston County. This land he has greatly improved, erecting on it all necessary buildings, all of which are kept in excellent condition.

On February 26, 1863, Mr. Holman was married to Tilda B. Belt, of Clermont County, Ohio, an early schoolmate. Mrs. Holman is the daughter of a wealthy farmer and has three brothers, all of whom are physicians. Mr. and Mrs. Holman have no issue. They both attend the Methodist church. In politics Mr. Holman is a Democrat and has acceptably served his Township as Assessor, Supervisor and in every way striven to promote the general welfare of the community. Although he has spent an active life, working hard, Mr. Holman is well preserved and looks after his affairs personally. He has many friends throughout the County, and is

worthily regarded as one of its most representative men.

HORNBECK, Henry, for fifty-one years one of the prominent figures of Livingston County, is now living on Section 21, Indian Grove Township. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., near what was at that time Cookstown, but is now called Fayette City, October 4, 1831, and is a son of Abram D. and Esther (Dobbs) Hornbeck. He is a native of New York and she of Ireland. The latter came with her parents to New York when she was a child. The Dobbs family settled in Fayette County, Pa. where she was married. Her birth occurred in 1809 and her husband's in 1808. The Hornbeck family comes of good old colonial stock, and is related by marriage with the Depew family, the maternal grandmother of Henry Hornbeck having been a Depew. The paternal grandparents all died in Pennsylvania, and the maternal grandparents died in Indiana. Mrs. Abram Hornbeck died in Fayette County about 1865. She and her husband had a large family, namely: two who died in infancy; John Depew, (deceased), left a family; James S. died at the age of eleven; Abram, a resident of Livingston County, enlisted in a Pennsylvania regiment during the Civil War and is now living in Livingston County; Aaron, of West Newton, Pa.; Job, died about the age of eighteen in Pennsylvania; Mary, (deceased), married William F. Foster, and resided in Upper Middletown, Pa.; Diana, a resident of Fayette County, Pa., married H. T. Duff and has a large family; Susanna, single and living in Jefferson County, Ohio.

Henry Hornbeck grew to manhood in his native State, learning farm work and going to school when opportunity offered. He turned his hand to any kind of honorable work until 1856, when he was attracted toward the West. With this idea in view he wrote to his cousin, Hugh McKee, in Livingston County, who replied that he could not do better than come, but it was six months later before he made up his mind, and then on September 10, 1857, he left the old home and came by train to Chicago, thence to Pontiac. From there he set out to walk to his cousin's, a distance of sixteen miles. On his way he passed through the present site of Fairbury, which then was represented only by the grade for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad. In fact, there were only two houses between Pontiac and Squire McKee's home, six miles southwest of Fairbury. There he found work by the day, but soon after his arrival Mr. McKee, who was operating a little store, decided to take advantage of Mr. Hornbeck's presence and get married. Therefore, Mr. Hornbeck was put in charge of everything at a salary of \$16 per month, and Mr. McKee went to Decatur and was married. Later Mr. Hornbeck engaged to work for seventy-five cents per day for John Vail during harvest, and when he was through took Mr. Vail's note for \$56. This note he traded to Frank Cooper for a yoke of oxen. In the meanwhile he made ar-

rangements with his cousin to work a tract of forty acres for five years for the crops, agreeing to clear off the land. However, after he had put up a little cabin and become well settled, Mr. McKee sold the property, and Mr. Hornbeck formed a partnership with Isaiah Conn to quarry stone, and this continued until Mr. Conn enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The partnership was dissolved, but Mr. Conn gave Mr. Hornbeck forty of the eighty acres he had bought, for the latter to break and fence for his share of the profits, and thus Mr. Hornbeck secured his first piece of land. He had landed in Livingston County with \$1.25 in his pocket. As he was improving his forty acres, he also bought a mill known as the Jones Mill on Indian Creek and operated it as a saw-mill for a number of years. At the same time he commenced buying a small piece of land eleven and one-half acres on Section 21, upon which he has since erected his beautiful home. He owns 141 acres now in addition to some town property, a pretty good return upon the investment of \$1.25 and his youthful vigor and energy.

On January 3, 1878, Mr. Hornbeck married Sarah Jane Moore, who was born near Fairbury on the farm now owned by Carl Muntz, on March 4, 1842, a daughter of Isom and Polly Ann (Spence) Moore, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky. They both were brought to Illinois in 1832, when she was eleven and he was sixteen. At the extremely youthful age of fourteen she was married, and they had four children: James I., died in 1902 aged sixty-two years; Mrs. Hornbeck; Susanna K., wife of Henry Hudson of Harper, Kas.; John H., near Francisville, Ind. Mrs. Hornbeck's mother died December 19, 1901, and the father on August 6, 1893. Both were typical pioneers who were among the first to settle in Indian Grove Township. They were Methodists in religious faith and most excellent people, and carried out in their lives the faith which was theirs. Generous, open-hearted, they did an immense amount of good and were loved by all who knew them. Mr. and Mrs. Hornbeck have been the parents of the following children: Hank B., born April 28, 1878, died February 27, 1895; Harry Dell, born in 1880, died in infancy; Harvy, born September 10, 1881, died July 17, 1901; Bessie, born March 22, 1883, married William V. Wilson and they have two children, Maleta Ida Jane and Milo B.; Daisy, born May 28, 1885, married William Henderson a farmer in Indian Grove Township and they have three children: Willma, Glenna and William Henry.

Mrs. Hornbeck was married prior to her marriage with Mr. Hornbeck, her first husband being Preston Harrison, a native of Tennessee, with whom she was united in marriage on December 4, 1860. He served three years in the war and was honorably discharged in 1865, when he returned home and remained until December 26, 1872, when he left home, returned to Tennessee and never was heard of afterward. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison had six children: Elizabeth Ann, wife of William B. Way, a farmer of Indian Grove



HENRY PALMER

Township, and they have two living children—Jennie and Nellie; Richard (deceased), left his wife and one child—Justia Fern; Rosiana, deceased, married Henry Thorp of Oklahoma, and left four children—S. Blanch, Pearl, Lloyd and Roy; Benjamin A., of Fairbury; James Noah (deceased); Lilly, married Henry Darnell, a farmer near Fairbury, and has five children—Dennis D., Grover, Darius, Forrest and Virgil.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hornbeck came on foot to the home he had prepared for her, and their married life has been a very happy one, although they have had to work very hard. Of the 141 acres, he cleared sixty of timber, grubbing out the stumps. The excellent orchard and fine ornamental trees surrounding the house have all been planted by him and they now have one of the best farms in the county. At one time he operated as much as 500 acres, and dealt extensively in cattle buying and shipping, meeting with deserved success. Mrs. Hornbeck is a Christian Science believer, and while Mr. Hornbeck is not connected with any special church, he strictly observes the Sabbath Day and gives liberally to the support of several religious denominations. While public-spirited, he has not desired public office, although he has served as Director of the School Board of District No. 135. He cast his first vote for Gen. Pierce in 1852, and for Lincoln in 1864, since which time he has been a Republican. Although he has joined the Odd Fellows and received his card, he has not handed it in. His exceeding good nature is such as to gain him many friends and to it he attributes his excellent health.

HOWARTH, Colonel D., one of the substantial representatives of the farming interests of Livingston County and a member of one of the pioneer families of Illinois, who resides on Section 6, Belle Prairie Township, was born in Peoria County, Ill., November 18, 1848, a son of John and Catherine (Lonsdale) Howarth, and grandson of Richard and Martha (Greenwood) Howarth. The family originated in England, where the grandfather was born in 1780 and the grandmother in 1775. The father, John Howarth, was also born in England, and in 1842 the family migrated to the United States, landing in New Orleans on May 1st of that year, and going thence to Peoria County, Ill., where the grandfather Richard died near Edwards Station, Ill., August 12, 1844, his widow surviving until May 31, 1857, when she, too, passed away. Her remains are interred beside those of her husband in the cemetery of the Episcopal church in Limestone Township, Peoria County.

The grandparents were married in England in 1805 and had children as follows: Grace, born July 26, 1806, died in England; Mary, born December 9, 1808, died in England, February 4, 1877, was married to John Kershaw, who died March 4, 1876; George, born April 29, 1809, died in England at the age of twenty-seven years; Samuel, born in England, December 2, 1810, died in Aurora, Ill., August 9, 1844; James H., born April 14, 1812, died in England, May 26, 1883,

and his wife Mary died May 19, 1873, aged sixty-one years; David, born June 2, 1816, died in England, May 7, 1874, and his wife Sarah died July 4, 1868, aged forty-two years; Maria, born September 2, 1818, died in England in infancy; Ann, born June 23, 1820, married James Greenough and both died at Wilson, Kan., the former on May 1, 1894, and her husband January 5, 1888; Susanna, born February 9, 1822, married John Hindale, and died at Brimfield, Ill., March 12, 1903; Richard, born April 12, 1824, died February 3, 1904, at Edwards, Peoria County, his wife Alice dying January 25, 1887, aged fifty-eight years; Edward, born June 4, 1826, died in England at the age of eighteen months. Five of the children of Richard Howarth came to America with him: Samuel, John, Ann, Susanna and Richard, and they all settled in Peoria County.

Catherine Howarth, whose maiden name was Lonsdale, was also brought to Peoria County by her parents at an early day and they were among the pioneers of the County. Mr. and Mrs. John Howarth were married in Peoria County, where Mr. Howarth engaged in mining, which occupation he had followed in England. Mrs. Howarth died in August, 1851, having borne her husband three children: Earnest and Thomas, who died of cholera, and Colonel D., the subject of this sketch. John Howarth was married again, July 18, 1852, his second wife being Mrs. Selina (Fielding) Brierly, who died June 7, 1896, after passing her seventy-sixth birthday, while John Howarth passed away December 18, 1888. By his second marriage John Howarth had these children: Sarah Ann, who was born July 11, 1853, married John O'Connor of Peoria, on September 19, 1895; Salina, born February 8, 1857, married David Hindle, a resident of Amelia, Va., on September 6, 1883; and a son John, Jr., who was born February 11, 1855, married Mandella Harker. He died July 11, 1893. There were two children of the first marriage of Mrs. Selina Howarth: James M. Brierly, born February 27, 1847, a resident of Moulton, Iowa, and Benjamin Brierly, born December 16, 1848, a resident of Kansas City, Mo. There were also two adopted sons: Alexander Rook, born July 8, 1860, and William Greenfielder, born September 7, 1875.

The early life of Colonel D. Howarth was passed on his father's farm and attending school, although his advantages for securing an education were few. His father, John Howarth, had discovered coal on his land and the young lad was kept busy working in the mine. He remained with his father until he was twenty-five years of age, when he received a farm of 120 acres on Section 6 for his faithful service, and became a resident of Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County. There was a small frame house on the property and here he lived with his sister Sarah Ann, who kept house for him. On September 13, 1875, he married Miss Ellen Lonsdale, who was born in Peoria County, Ill., November 5, 1854, a daughter of William and Ann (Wamsley) Lonsdale, natives of Lancashire,

England, who were married there and emigrated to America in the early 'forties, settling in Peoria County among the early pioneers. Mr. Lonsdale was the only one of his family to come to America and his wife was also the only representative of her family in the New World. A brother of Mr. Lonsdale, John, died in England, December 16, 1903. Mrs. Lonsdale, born in England, January 2, 1832, died in Peoria County, September 13, 1895, while Mr. Lonsdale, born in England, May 24, 1820, died December 16, 1903, in Peoria County. Mr. and Mrs. Lonsdale had children as follows: Joseph, born March 15, 1852, married, August 17, 1885, Clara Caley, and they live at Davenport, Neb.; Ellen, born November 5, 1854; Sarah J., born June 10, 1857, widow of Andrew Johnson of Peoria County, her husband being a native of Sweden to whom she was married June 12, 1895, and who died April 15, 1900, she having previously been the wife of William Francis; Richard, born March 17, 1859, married, October 5, 1896, Grace Freeze, who was born March 15, 1867, and is a farmer in Peoria County; James A., born in March, 1861, married, May 2, 1889, Maria Clausen, and lives near Hanna, Peoria County; Mary, born May 29, 1863, married, June 8, 1897, James Crow, and resides at Hanna City, Ill.; Abel C., born June 24, 1866, married, September 28, 1892, Mary Christopher, and is a farmer in Peoria County; Alice, born October 17, 1870, died January 11, 1892, and is buried in the Episcopal church cemetery in Lime-stone Township, Peoria County. Mrs. Howarth was reared in the faith of the Church of England, but both she and her husband have identified themselves with the Christian church and brought up their children in that faith. They are very active in its good work and have many friends not only in the church but throughout the entire county.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Howarth are: Sarah Lina, born July 17, 1876, is at home; Bessie Jane, born May 24, 1879, was engaged in teaching, but is now at home. Both young ladies are well educated and charming in manner, well read and highly intelligent. They assist their parents in making their home one of the most pleasant in their locality, and a delightful gathering place for their friends. For thirty-five years Mr. and Mrs. Howarth have resided upon their present homestead, increasing their original real estate holding to 342 acres, all in excellent condition and supplied with all modern and substantial buildings. Mr. Howarth, as are the members of his family, is a Republican, although he has never aspired to public office, his time being fully occupied with his affairs. Such people as the Howarths make Livingston County what it is today, and back up the claim made for it that it is one of the best residence sections of the State.

HOYT, Stephen A. (deceased), formerly a banker of recognized ability and pure moral character, in Forrest, Livingston County, Ill., a veteran of the Civil War, a citizen who held a high place in the esteem of his fellow townsmen,

having probably done more than any other man towards the upbuilding of the Village of Forrest, and one whose death was an occasion of mourning in all parts of the county, was born in Ulster County, N. Y., July 27, 1834. His parents were Curtis and Maria A. (Myer) Hoyt, natives of Connecticut and New York, respectively. Both died before reaching the age of fifty years, the father spending his last days in Delaware County in the latter State. By occupation he was a hatter, a trade which he followed for many years. The mother passed away in Saugerties, N. Y., about the year 1855, a short time previous to the death of her husband. Their family was composed of seven children, as follows: Stephen A.; Sarah (Mrs. Turner); Theodore, deceased; Francis M., of Pontiac, Ill.; Peter M., deceased; George, who died in infancy; and Elizabeth (Mrs. Thomas J. Kerr), of Washington. The second son, Theodore, became a sailor and being shipwrecked on the shores of the Fiji Islands, married the daughter of a missionary there.

Stephen A. Hoyt left home at the age of seventeen years, going to Kingston, N. Y., where he learned the trade of a carpenter, but returned in three years, and after the death of his parents, remained on the home place until August, 1857. At that time he started west with a kit of tools and \$49 in money. Stopping at Chicago for awhile, he went thence to Prairie du Chien, Wis., staying there two months. From that point he went to Bloomington, Ill., and in April, 1858, to Eureka, Woodford County, following his trade in the various places of his temporary abode. On May 12, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Seventeenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Capt. O. A. Burgess, commanding, and was soon promoted to be Second Sergeant. Going with his regiment to the front, he took part in the Battle of Shiloh, where he was wounded in the arm. He made an urgent request of his superior officers that he should not be sent to the hospital, and accordingly was detailed to light duty at brigade headquarters, acting in the capacity of clerk for Gen. William R. Rowley.

At the formation of the military division of the Mississippi, he was assigned to duty at General Grant's headquarters, Nashville, Tenn. A number of army orders signed by General U. S. Grant were placed in his hand for safe delivery at various army posts. Several of these orders, in the General's own handwriting, were preserved by Sergeant Hoyt as mementoes of service and are in Mrs. Hoyt's possession. On General Grant's promotion to the supreme command of all the Union forces, Gen. W. T. Sherman, his department successor, honored Mr. Hoyt by appointing him Department Detective. His commission is dated at Nashville Tenn., May 6, 1864, and reads as follows:

"To whom it may concern: Stephen A. Hoyt, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, is an authorized detective from this office. The authorities will render him all assistance necessary for the performance of his duties, by command of Major-General W. T. Sherman."

Some idea of the nature of these duties may be



MRS. HENRY PALMER

gathered from the appended letter, which contains one of the orders he executed:

"S. A. Hoyt, Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry:

"Sir: You will proceed at once to Columbus, Tenn., and such other points on the Nashville & Decatur Railroad as may be necessary, for the purpose of collecting evidence and information as to the cotton transactions of T. W. Lelsee and Isaac Milner.

"The military authorities will render the assistance necessary to the accomplishment of your mission.

"By command of Major-General W. T. Sherman."

The above shows the trustworthiness and moral and mental stability that were Mr. Hoyt's, which characteristics ruled his later years, and which same caught the attention and commanded the respect and faith of those supreme in command over him as a soldier.

On the expiration of his term of service he was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., in July, 1864, receiving his honorable discharge. Returning to Woodford County, he was engaged in contracting and building at Eureka until the spring of 1865, when he located at Forrest, Livingston County, embarking first in the lumber and livestock business and, at a later period, in the grain trade. On January 5, 1885, he established a banking institution at Forrest under the style of S. A. Hoyt & Co., having a capital stock of \$25,000, and with this enterprise he was identified up to the time of his death. He was a very liberal-minded man, tolerant of opposing opinion, and courteous and considerate towards all. In all the virtues and attributes pertaining to his well-regulated life, none exhibited his inherent worth more noticeably than the love that found expression in his home circle. As he was regarded outside as a model business man, he was if such a thing was possible, a more blameless pattern in his domestic life.

The marriage of Mr. Hoyt took place October 3, 1865, on which date Rutilla Gillum became his wife. Mrs. Hoyt, who still survives, and is the object of unfeigned regard among a wide circle of friends, was born in Christian County, Ky., in 1840, a daughter of James and Eleanor C. (Harvey) Gillum, being the only surviving member of a family of six children. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, where the birth of the father occurred in 1813, and that of the mother, in 1817. The former died in Missouri at the age of sixty years; and the mother passed away in Forrest, Ill., when seventy-nine years old.

Stephen A. Hoyt departed this life February 11, 1905. He was long a member of the Christian Church, to which his estimable widow also belongs. Politically, he was a Republican with strong Prohibition principles. He was influential in the local councils of his party, and served the public with efficiency and fidelity as Supervisor, School Director and Justice of the Peace. He was tendered the office of County Treasurer by his party leaders, but declined the honor. He

was devoted to business rather than politics, and had this not been so, he might have easily achieved eminent success in state craft.

The faithful companion of his honorable and useful career is passing her waning years, surrounded by every material comfort and solaced by the kindly solicitude of steadfast friendship. She is the owner of an attractive residence in Forrest, and among her other possessions are 320 acres of land in Kossuth County, Iowa, 960 acres in South Dakota, and valuable property at Sioux Falls, in the same State.

HUMISTON, Bennet (deceased).—In the annals of its agriculture and the minds of its older generation, Livingston County treasures the name and attainments of its erstwhile genial and popular associate, Bennet Humiston. During the thirty-one years of his sojourn here, from the summer of 1852 until his death, November 15, 1883, Mr. Humiston gave such evidence of his general ability, such knowledge of the theory and practice of his chosen calling, and such undisputable proof of his belief in the gospel of industry and honesty, as to win sincere appreciation during his life time, and permanent remembrance now that he is no more.

Advantages and stepping stones in the life of Mr. Humiston included good birth, strong mental endowment and practical, useful ideals. There was nothing of the visionary about him, and he set little store by the merely ornamental or æsthetic attributes of man. Born in Litchfield County, Conn., September 6, 1830, he drew inspiration from an early American ancestry recruited from England, and which long had been connected with the landed interests of the Nutmeg State. He was the namesake of his father, born in Litchfield County, and his mother, a native of the same part of the State, formerly was Emily Warner. Of their three sons and one daughter, the two surviving sons still live in Litchfield County, Conn., while the daughter, who became the wife of George Woodruff, the latter now a resident of Eldorado, Mo., died during the early '80s. Mrs. Woodruff's daughter became the wife of George Crawford, an extensive horse purchaser of Pontiac.

Until his twenty-first year Bennet Humiston lived on his father's farm in Connecticut, and in the meantime equipped himself for larger responsibility by attending the public schools and a private academy at Warren. Growing out of, rather than into, his surroundings of conservatism, he responded to the call of the Central West in 1852, inspired to this step by his friend, Apollos Camp, who the year previous had journeyed to Livingston County, Ill., in search of the great boon of health. Mr. Camp already owned a half-section of the land in Livingston County, and with Mr. Humiston he took up a whole section in Esmen Township, the greater part of it unplowed land, and bearing many evidences of primitive occupation and inactivity. The following spring Mr. Camp brought his wife and son to his prairie home, leaving behind his daughter

Harriet, who was attending school in the East, and who joined him a year and a half later. The partners continued to make continual progress in the cultivation of their large tract, devoting it largely to stock-raising, in which they were both well versed and profoundly interested.

The marriage of Mr. Humiston and Harriet Camp occurred May 22, 1856, and the couple continued on the same farm until 1876, when they moved to Pontiac, from where Mr. Humiston managed his large interests, and attained large success as a breeder of Norman horses, cattle and hogs. He took great interest and felt great pride in his beautiful thoroughbred horses, and at times had a herd of a hundred or more. He maintained a high standard of stock-raising, and his reputation as a breeder and authority on stock was unexcelled in the county for many years. He had a thorough knowledge of realty values, invested always with rare wisdom and discretion, and in time became the owner of sixteen hundred acres of land, all of which now is held by his widow, and part of which was left her by her father. The people of Pontiac have a continual reminder of this early landsman and his partner, Mr. Camp, for three additions, the Humiston and Camp, and the Camp have been platted from the land, to the cultivation of which they devoted their rugged energies. Mr. Humiston built the present family home in 1875, and at that time it was the most beautiful and costly architectural structure in Livingston County. As a landmark it is invested with the distinction of long association with passing events, and about its lines is a certain pride and nobility attainable only by the things that are strong, dependable and useful.

Throughout his voting life Mr. Humiston professed Democratic attachment, but his personal responsibilities were too engrossing to permit of political aspirations. He served, however, as Alderman of the city, and was keenly interested in its educational, governmental and general development. An enthusiastic fraternalist, he was a member of the Odell Lodge A. F. & A. M., and an attendant at the Episcopal Church, to which belonged his parents and his own early allegiance. A man of great energy and foresight, a master of the science of accumulation, which is little more than the art of saving, and a believer in the qualities of courtesy, consideration, fairness and dependability, he maintained on a large scale and in their most enlightened form, creative interests which ever must be regarded as of paramount importance in the growth of this part of the country. We know of no career in the past of Pontiac and vicinity which furnishes more encouraging or inspiring phases than does that of Mr. Humiston, or any which attached to itself in larger measure the esteem and good will of friends and associates.

A continual reminder of the successful life of her prominent husband is the wife who survives him, occupying the stately home so long identified with the fortunes of the Humiston family. Mrs. Humiston was born in Litchfield County,

Conn., and her whole life has responded to advantages for the cultivation of heart and intellect. A calm mind, reposeful manner and delightful sympathy project her into the heart of affairs in the community, and she is one of its rarest exponents of well directed and practical philanthropy. The proper use of wealth has been one of her profoundest considerations, and the extent of her benefactions probably never will be known save by those who have directly profited by them. For the grounds and building of the Y. M. C. A., she donated upwards of \$26,000, and she also gave a property to be used as an Episcopal rectory. It is doubtful if any wise appeal for her interest and practical co-operation goes unheeded, and she is well beloved for her timely assistance in the case of young people handicapped in their ambitions by poverty or other limitations. It would seem that love for humankind is the dominant note in her personality, and this she exhales in her individual deeds and her every day of life.

HUMMEL, Henry, a well known and thrifty farmer of Germanville Township, Livingston County, Ill., who, during his many years of residence in his present locality, has gained the reputation of a thoroughly reliable man and a useful citizen, was born in Kendall County, Ill., March 13, 1858, a son of Anton and Magdalena (Arnold) Hummel, both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, whose marriage took place in Kendall County in 1857. The father, a stone-mason by occupation, was born in 1826, and emigrated to the United States in 1854, proceeding directly to Kendall County, Ill., where he worked at his trade five years. Then he moved to Livingston County, where, out of his savings, he bought a farm of 320 acres in Germanville Township. On this place he followed farming successfully for many years, dying February 28, 1906, when eighty-two years old. He and his wife reared a family of three sons and one daughter, of whom the latter is deceased. The sons are now farmers in Livingston County. Henry Hummel grew to manhood on the home farm, receiving his education in the district schools. In early life he started out for himself, and has since devoted his attention to farming, in which his labors have been attended by success, he now owning 240 acres of land.

On February 7, 1882, Mr. Hummel was first married to Matilda Froebe, a daughter of Nicholas and Carolina (Gimble) Froebe, natives of Kur-Hessen, Germany, who settled in 1858, in Livingston County, Ill., where the daughter was born. Mrs. Froebe died in California in 1906, and Mr. Froebe still makes his home in Los Angeles, that State. Mr. Hummel's first wife died July 4, 1898, leaving three sons and one daughter: Frank A., a farmer of Germanville Township, who married, February 22, 1908, Lena Hornickel, a native of Livingston County; Catherine C.; Fidel C., and Charles E. On July 29, 1899, Mr. Hummel took a second wife in the person of Mary Gerbig, a daughter of Henry and Bertha (Fox) Gerbig, natives of Kur-Hessen,

Germany, who came to America in 1866 and engaged in truck farming in Chicago, where both died, the father January 23, 1908, and the mother December 3, 1907. To Mr. Hummel's second marriage there have been born a son, Clarence H., and a daughter, Hazel Amelia.

Politically, Mr. Hummel is a Democrat, and for several years has held the office of Supervisor and Road Commissioner, and at the present time is Township Assessor and School Trustee, a Director of the Farmers' National Bank of Strawn, and a Director of the Forrest Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

HUTSON, Nathan, one of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers of Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, Ill., owning 340 acres of well improved land, mainly acquired through his own industry and thrifty management, was born in Adams County, Ohio, August 9, 1855, a son of Handy and Susan (Gutridge) Hutson, natives of that County. The paternal grandfather, Henry Hutson, was born June 15, 1807, in Maryland, and his wife, Margaret (Hopkins) Hutson, was born May 13, 1804. Henry Hutson died May 17, 1894, in Adams County, Ohio, while his wife died in the same county, March 29, 1870. James Gutridge, the maternal grandfather, was a Kentuckian by birth, born August 2, 1813, died August 23, 1876. His wife, Mary (Breckenridge) Gutridge, was born in Kentucky, November 18, 1816, and died November 29, 1900. She was a relative of the famous Kentucky statesman, John C. Breckenridge. The maternal grandparents came to Livingston County, Ill., in 1857, locating on a farm in Rocky Creek Township which he had bought. It comprised forty acres, to which they added thirty acres and lived upon it until they bought another farm, three miles east of the one now occupied by Nathan Hutson, which consisted of 140 acres, and upon this property occurred the death of the old pioneer, James Gutridge. His widow survived him and died in Pontiac.

Handy Hutson, father of Nathan, who came to Livingston County in 1857, was the owner of 310 acres of land, besides property in Pontiac. He was a Democrat in politics and a prominent factor in local affairs, having served successively as Collector, Assessor, Supervisor and in other township offices. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Nathan; Mrs. E. M. Thornton, of Pontiac; and Cora E., wife of Jesse J. Green of McDowell, Livingston County. Handy Hutson died May 27, 1897, aged sixty-six years, two months, his wife surviving him until September 24, 1900, when she died, aged sixty-three years, seven months, eighteen days.

Nathan Hutson received his education in the common schools, his youth being passed on the home farm. He has always followed farming, and at one time was the owner of 440 acres of land, of which he still retains 340, becoming possessed of the greater part of it as the result of his own exertions. Aside from general farming he devotes his attention to stock-raising,

and especially to the breeding of Duroc-Jersey swine. The marriage of Mr. Hutson took place at the bride's home near McDowell, September 27, 1877, Mary A. Green becoming his wife on that date. Mrs. Hutson was born in McLean County, Ill., June 16, 1856, and is a daughter of John E. and Eliza (Warren) Green, natives of Lancashire, England. Her parents came to the United States in 1855, locating in McLean County, Ill., whence, in 1857, they moved to McDowell, Livingston County, near which place Mr. Green still lives. Their family consisted of eight children, two of whom are deceased. The mother died July 7, 1880. By a second marriage, Mr. Green became the father of four children, all living. In politics he is a Democrat. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hutson: James Thomas, born September 27, 1881; and Florence May, born April 11, 1883, who died in infancy. James T. Hutson who received his education in the common schools, conducts the paternal farm, and also operates eighty-eight acres of land, which are his own property. He was married January 1, 1902, to Bertha A. Weist, a native of Livingston County, Ill., and a daughter of John D. and Emma A. (Cartwright) Weist, of Rooks Creek Township, in the same county. Two children have resulted from this union: Benna Bernice, born June 20, 1903; and John Handy, born July 7, 1905. Politically, James T. Hutson is a Democrat. His wife is a member of the Baptist church. Nathan Hutson is an earnest supporter of the Democratic party, although he never entertained any desire for public office. He is not connected with any religious denomination, but Mrs. Hutson is a communicant of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JACKSON, Ethan A. (deceased), for twenty-nine years one of the principal merchants of Chatsworth, Ill., a man of high character and considerable financial resources, was born in Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio, November 17, 1835, a son of John and Ruth Ann (Riggs) Jackson, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, respectively, who moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, at an early period. Later they went to Harrison, Hamilton County, where in 1849, John Jackson established the first pottery, and there they continued to reside the remainder of their lives. Ethan A. Jackson, who was one of a family of six children, came from Ohio to Chatsworth, Ill., in 1866 and opened a hardware store, which he conducted until 1895. He built up a large business and prospered greatly, acquiring a handsome competency and gaining a high reputation for honorable dealing and fidelity to the obligations of citizenship. His death took place in Chatsworth, April 3, 1898. In political matters he was a Republican, but a stalwart supporter of Prohibition principles.

Mr. Jackson was twice married, first to Mary A. Morrison, in Pennsylvania in December, 1861, and who died September 27, 1872. She was the mother of three children: a daughter who died

aged eighteen years; Henry E., a resident of Lovington, Ill., and Albert O., who lives at Vandalia, Mo. On December 25, 1877, Mr. Jackson married Eliza J. Colver, a native of Allentown, Pa., and daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann (Hoffman) Colver, natives of Lehigh County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Colver were both born in 1806. They came to Illinois in 1844 and settled in Whiteside County, but after spending one winter there, removed to Bureau County, where, although an architect by profession, Mr. Colver engaged in farming. He died in 1888, his wife having passed away in 1880, both in the faith of the Methodist church. In politics, Mr. Colver was a Republican. Mrs. Jackson, a woman of high character, who survives her husband, occupies the family residence, which is one of the finest residence properties in Chatsworth. In religious faith, Mr. Jackson was connected with the Christian church, while his highly respected widow is a member of the Baptist denomination.

JENKINS, Albanus L.—The influence of the Quakers on any community in which they may live is very marked and always for good. The qualities which are characteristic of their belief are those which lead toward simplicity of life, honesty of purpose and strictness of self-control. No Quaker ever takes an oath; it is against his belief to do so, but his affirmation is always accepted. The Quaker's yea and nay is as good as any other man's written promise, and for these reasons and many others they are always welcome members of all communities. Albanus L. Jenkins, a farmer on Section 27, Long Point Township, is a member of the Society of Friends, and during his long and useful life has lived according to the Quaker faith. He was born in Montgomery County, Pa., July 24, 1833, a son of Jesse and Mary (Ambler) Jenkins, both natives of Pennsylvania. The Jenkins family originally came from Wales, both parents of Jesse Jenkins having been born there. They came to Pennsylvania, and settled in Montgomery Township, where the family remained until 1840, when Jesse Jenkins, who, as were the other members of the family, was a strict Quaker, left Pennsylvania, and coming to Illinois settled in Peoria, where he bought Congressland in Hallack Township, and on that farm he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, she dying in 1872, aged sixty-eight, and he on October 28, 1890, aged ninety-four. The following children were born to them: Lydia, who makes her home with her brother Albanus; John, died March 11, 1898; Albanus, who grew to maturity, and five who died in childhood. Jesse Jenkins was one of the reliable, responsible residents of his locality. In politics he was a Republican.

When brought to Illinois, Albanus Jenkins was seven years of age, and he was reared upon the farm and endured many of the hardships of pioneer life. His education was received in the public schools, and he remained at home until the war broke out, when he enlisted in Company C, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for

three years, or until the close of the war. The date of his enlistment was August 13, 1862. The regiment was organized at Peoria, and he was mustered into service August 27, 1862. On August 27th of every year the Eighty-sixth Regiment has, for the past twenty years, had a reunion at Peoria which proves very entertaining. From Peoria the regiment was sent to Louisville, Ky., where Albanus Jenkins was taken sick, but the regiment went on to Bowling Green, Ky. As soon as he recovered, Albanus rejoined his regiment at Bowling Green, Ky., and from thence they were sent to Nashville, and remained there during the winter of 1863. From Nashville the regiment was sent to Buzzard's Roost. In the fall of 1863 he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, and sent to Louisville, Ky., and there was assigned to hospital duty on a transport, and was thus engaged until August 25, 1865, when he was mustered out of the service at Louisville and honorably discharged.

Returning home he resumed his farming duties, but in 1867 removed to Livingston County, where he bought 160 acres of land on Section 27, Long Point Township, which he has since made his home. The land was raw prairie and there was not a tree or shrub on it, but he went to work to cultivate it. He put up a frame house, 16 x 20 feet, and a story and a half in height. Having prepared a home for his bride, he was married September 6, 1868, in Peoria, Ill., to Phoebe E. Hamlin, who was born in Northhampton, Peoria County, a daughter of Reuben B. and Betsy (Reed) Hamlin, who were both natives of Massachusetts. By trade Reuben B. Hamlin was a cabinetmaker but during his declining years he conducted a hotel at Northhampton. Mr. Hamlin was born March 18, 1883, and died September 29, 1859; his wife, born August 13, 1815, died May 12, 1875—both dying in Peoria County. They had children as follows: William, born August 19, 1836, is deceased; Joseph J., born March 6, 1839, enlisted in the Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Regiment, and participated in seventeen battles, and in Sherman's March to the Sea—is now a resident and retired farmer of Seward, Neb.; Maria L., born Sept. 19, 1841, died November 27, 1842; Marion A., born November 28, 1843; Edw. A., born February 12, 1847, died February 24, 1847; Adelaide E., born February 17, 1848, married William Gullitt and died December 10, 1904; Phoebe, born March 27, 1851; Alfred B., born April 9, 1854, died November 27, 1860.

After his marriage, Albanus took his wife to their new home, and they began their married life on the raw farm. In time they added to their possessions and now own 200 acres in Long Point Township and 140 in Green County, Iowa. The Long Point farm was gradually placed under cultivation, and they have made many important improvements on it, built a comfortable home to take the place of the original one, and added barns and other outbuildings. The following children have been born



Francis M. Patton

to them: George A., born August 6, 1869, died February 3, 1904; Mary E., born March 1, 1872, married Samuel C. Anderson, a farmer near Ripley, Iowa; Lydia Ann, born November 25, 1875, died February 9, 1895; Charles H., born February 26, 1876, died April 4, 1876; Jesse Herbert, born June 4, 1877, is at home; Allen F., born February 5, 1880, married Matilda Stepp; Emma E., born October 9, 1883, married H. C. Hensen; John L., born September 23, 1886; Nellie May, born May 28, 1890.

The descendants of this family include the following: Children of Samuel C. and Mary E. (Jenkins) Anderson—Sadie R., born January 9, 1891; Charles, born October 2, 1892; Mabel, born September 9, 1894; Roy, born August 31, 1896; Louis, born December 10, 1898; Nellie E., born March 13, 1901; Bertha, born August 3, 1903; Wilbur W., born April 15, 1906. Allen F., and his wife, Matilda (Stepp) Jenkins have one son, Howard L., born November 15, 1907. Emma E. Jenkins, who married H. C. Hensen, has two children—Raymond, born January 10, 1904, and Mabel M., born August 25, 1906.

As the children of Albanus and Phoebe Jenkins grew to maturity they received good educations and developed into high-minded and substantial citizens who enjoy the respect and good will of those with whom they are brought in contact.

After forty years residence upon the 200-acre farm which has been their home in Long Point Township, Albanus Jenkins and wife have reason to be well satisfied with what they have accomplished. Their farm is one of the best in the Township, and they have put in 1,300 rods of drain tiling. Mr. Jenkins has been School Trustee, and for fourteen years has been a School Director. In politics he is a Republican, and is a member of the L. G. Keety Post, No. 160. G. A. R. of Minonk, Ill. His wife is a member of the Christian church of Flanagan, Ill. Born into membership of the Society of Friends, Albanus Jenkins has continued a Quaker all his life. He is recognized as a good farmer and stock raiser, a thrifty man and excellent citizen, and has many friends throughout the county.

JESSUP, George.—Having spent his life in agricultural pursuits, giving liberally of both time and money to church and community advancement, George Jessup has every right now in the days of his success to feel proud of his work. Beginning life's struggle empty-handed, through hard work, good management and frugality, he has become one of the leading farmers of Indian Grove Township, and rents an excellent farm on Section 6. His birth occurred in Godridge, Canada, January 15, 1864, a son of Richard Jessup, who emigrated with his family to the United States in 1869 when George was a lad of five years, settling in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, where he engaged in farming.

The life of young George was spent upon the farm and he was well educated in the dis-

trict school, now known as District No. 1. Having remained with his father until he was twenty-four years of age, in 1888 he rented land with his father on Section 6, Indian Grove Township, and together they operated 265 acres. This partnership lasted until 1896, when Mr. Jessup the younger sold his interest and rented 220 acres of Mrs. S. G. Cone, which he cultivated for two years when he rented the farm of 265 he and his father had previously rented in partnership. For twenty years he has farmed this property, and now raises 120 acres of corn, the soil being especially adapted to this grain and to oats. In 1906 Mr. Jessup bought 100 acres of land in Fulton County, Ind., which is now worth \$100 per acre, it being well improved and in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Jessup carries on general farming and stock raising on the Cone farms, and is an authority on agricultural matters.

On December 31, 1891, Mr. Jessup was united in marriage with Miss Lettie M. Lytle, daughter of Thomas and Mary J. (Doonen) Lytle, both natives of Ireland. Mrs. Jessup was born near Chatsworth, March 6, 1870. Mr. Lytle, her father, died March 24, 1904, but Mrs. Lytle survives and makes her home in Fairbury. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lytle are: William T., of Mt. Aira, Iowa; Mary E., who married William Hieronymus, a farmer of Indian Grove Township; Jane Ann, who married Howard Hartley, a farmer of Chatsworth; Emily A., who married James A. Hartley of North Fairbury; Mrs. George Jessup; Iva M., who is at home with her mother; Carrie B., who is the widow of B. F. Best, a resident of Fairbury; Martin S., a farmer of Mountayr, Iowa; Addie F., who married John Huette of Fairbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessup have five children: George F., born July, 1893, at home; Hazel, born October 2, 1894; Mary E., born July 17, 1896; Richard T., born October 31, 1899; William A., born October 19, 1905. These parents are very much interested in giving their children a good education and fitting them to occupy places of trust and responsibility in the community. Above all, they are giving them the benefit of excellent examples and inculcating into the young minds lessons of truth and morality. Mr. and Mrs. Jessup are consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Fairbury. They are both members of The Court of Honor and are among the charter members of this branch of their order. In politics, Mr. Jessup is a liberal, and is well posted as to the merits of issues and candidates, and can talk intelligently and forcibly relative to them.

JESSUP, Richard, a genial, kind-hearted, retired farmer residing upon the fine farm with his son George Jessup, in Indian Grove Township, has perhaps more real, true friends than any other man in Livingston County, for he possesses in marked degree those traits of character that endear a man to those with whom he is brought in contact and win for him the confidence and esteem of his neighbors. Mr.

Jessup was born in Queens County, Ireland, July 23, 1833, a son of George and Ann (Hancock) Jessup, both natives of the same county, where they were married. By trade the father was a shoemaker and followed his trade in Ireland. In 1845 he, with his family, by that time consisting of eight children, sailed from Liverpool and landed in New York after a voyage of seven weeks and three days. From New York the family went to Minersville, Pa., where the father worked at his trade and where he died, his remains being there interred. The children of George and Ann Jessup were as follows: Robert; George, who died in Canada; Thomas, who was a soldier in an Ohio regiment and died after a three-years' service; Humphry, died in childhood; Tobias, also died in childhood; William, died in infancy; Ellen, is the widow of Joseph Yoe and resides at Decatur, Ill., and Richard.

Richard Jessup worked in a coal mine in Pennsylvania after the family exodus to that State, but in 1854 went to Canada, where he engaged in farming, and where he was married, on January 1, 1857, to Ellen Bradney, also a native of Queens County, Ireland, and a daughter of Thomas Bradney, now deceased. In 1869 Richard Jessup left Canada and, coming to Illinois, stopped in Forrest, Livingston County. Liking the locality he settled north of that place in Pleasant Ridge Township, and there rented land from Patrick Conner, remaining until 1873, when he removed to Indian Grove Township, where he has since made his home, with the exception of four years spent in Avoca Township. When Mr. Jessup came to Livingston County in 1869, it appeared as though the entire county was under water, for the season was a wet one and the corn was almost submerged. Tiling was almost unheard of then, and none of the farmers then thought of this method of redeeming their low land. Now, where cows once stood knee deep in water, waves the golden corn, the pride of Central Illinois. These are not the only changes Mr. Jessup has witnessed, for he has seen the installation of good roads, the development of prairie towns into cities, the laying of railroads and the thousand and one improvements which have advanced Illinois to a foremost place among the great States of the Union. In 1898 Mr. Jessup sold some property and went to California and purchased land there, but within a few months he rented his property and returned to Livingston County, where he proposes to end his days among the people and scenes he loves so well. As was his father before him, he is a good Democrat and gives his hearty support to the candidates of his party. He and his wife and other members of their family are members of the Episcopal church, and with which the family has always been identified, in Ireland, being Church of England people. At the age of seventy-five, Mr. Jessup is in excellent health and possessed of a strong mentality that shows his smart wit and intelligent grasp of current events. In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Jessup

celebrated their golden wedding and the event was a most delightful affair. Not only were all the members of the family present, but many others were guests and the aged couple received many valuable gifts to commemorate the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessup had children as follows: Thomas, who married Miss Effie Johnson, is a resident of California and they have seven children; Annie, married William Morgan of California and they have three sons; George, with whom Mr. and Mrs. Jessup reside; Esther, married Samuel Hanna, a farmer near Wolcott, Ind., and they have four children; Susan, married David Vermilzea of Chenoa, Ill., and they have a son and a daughter.

JOHN, Patton, retired, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. On the 8th of May, 1908, many of the leading daily papers of the United States announced the celebration of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Patton John, at Fairbury, Ill. In the "St. Louis Globe-Democrat" the announcement was as follows: "Fairbury, Ill., May 7.—Mr. and Mrs. Patton John celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary here today. Both were among the earliest settlers and are enjoying fair health. Each is eighty-seven years old, their ages being but four days apart." In some of the great newspapers further particulars were given, and quite full accounts of the interesting event appeared in hundreds of country papers throughout the Middle West. It is a coincidence somewhat singular that, without any plan having been made to that end—in a way quite accidental—this article is being written, on the day following that memorable celebration, at a place some hundreds of miles distant from Fairbury.

Patton John was born in Greene County, Pa., December 15, 1820, a son of George John, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and there married Margaret Patton. The American progenitor of the family was George John, great grandfather of Patton John, who came from Wales sometime before the Revolutionary War. James John, son of George John, the immigrant and grandfather of Patton John, was born and reared in Pennsylvania and married and lived out his days there. Margaret Patton, who became the wife of George John, Patton John's father, was also a native of the Keystone State. She bore her husband thirteen children, concerning whom the writer is glad to offer some information. Patton John, the first born, is the immediate subject of this sketch. Caleb John is living at Augusta, Butler County, Kan. Elizabeth, of Moulton, Iowa, is the widow of John Hunt, and has two daughters. Minerva is the wife of William Headley, of Cedardale, Okla. The others are dead.

George John came west from Pennsylvania and settled in Davis County, Iowa, where he and his wife lived out their days. He was an old-fashioned Democrat and a Baptist of the old school. As a farmer he was successful. His son Patton early began to help upon the farm,

attending subscription schools as opportunity offered. When he was sixteen years old, he was apprenticed for four years, receiving board, clothing and washing, to learn the trade of saddler and harness-maker. At the expiration of three years, his employer failed in business and, no money having been passed in the deal, his freedom from further obligation was conceded. After working a year at his trade for wages, he was enabled to open a small saddlery and harness-shop in a little building on his father's farm. May 7, 1843, he married Lydia Hubbs, who was born in Greene County, Pa., December 19, 1820, four days after his own birth in the same county. After his marriage he settled at Newtown, where he conducted a saddlery and harness shop until 1855 when he sold out there and removed to Woodford County, Ill., whence he came in the spring of 1857 to Livingston County and began to farm on rented land about a mile east of the present site of Fairbury, which place then had not yet been platted. Game was plentiful round about, even including some wild turkeys, and wolves howled around Mr. John's dwelling, making night hideous. The few families living in the vicinity included those of Dr. Cicero C. Bartlett, Lyman Potter, John Adkins, Caleb Patton, Jacob Compston, and John Compston, the latter being the only one of those mentioned who is living at this time. In 1863 Mr. John gave up farming to work in the saddlery and harness shop of C. C. Carter, at Fairbury, and he was thus employed until 1880, when he was disabled by rheumatism by which he has been afflicted ever since. Notwithstanding his ill health, his mind is clear and strong, and having acquired his "second eyesight," he is able to read newspaper print without the aid of glasses. He saw the first house built in Fairbury and saw it burning in May, 1907. Had he the inclination he could doubtless write a very complete history of the town.

For sixty-five years, as we have seen, Mr. and Mrs. John have traveled life's path hand in hand. If possible, she is even better preserved than he; in fact, it has been said of her that, in some ways, she is younger than many women of forty. She has no difficulty in reading and is able to do needle work that would baffle the skill of some of the girls of today. On February 3, 1908, a visitor to her house saw her sewing and knotting a quilt, working rapidly and with a precision that was quite astonishing. Mr. and Mrs. John are always ready with reminiscences of the past. Notwithstanding their ripe old age, they are bright and cheery, excellent talkers and uncommonly good company. Mr. John relates that when he began farming in the county, oats sold as low as ten cents and corn at thirteen cents a bushel, affording practically no profit, even could they have been marketed without much trouble and expense. To some extent a system of trade or "dicker" was in vogue among the pioneer farmers. He remembers when oats were exchanged for salt at the ratio of thirty bushel of oats for one barrel of salt. Certainly there was no one

optimistic enough to call that "a God given ratio." Politically Mr. John has been inclined to independence, but being a strong temperance man, he has so far as possible allied himself with Prohibitionists, and it is his proud boast that during his sixty-six years as a voter, he has "never cast a vote in the interest of the liquor trade." Mrs. John has been almost a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which her husband became a member in 1849.

To Mr. and Mrs. John have been born five children, two of whom died in infancy. Adda M., who was born in Pennsylvania, is living with her parents. Lizzie C. married Leonard B. Gurley, of Marion, Ohio. Elmer J., who is living in Des Moines, Iowa, married Lora Wilson of Colfax, Iowa, who has borne him six children: Guy W., Harley B., Cora Lee, Adda, Ralph L. and Daryl.

JOHN, Reason McCann.—The genealogy of the John family shows that it was established in America during the colonial period, and various ancestors, not only on the paternal, but on other sides of the house, served as Revolutionary soldiers, one of them being killed in the Battle of Brandywine. True to their country and faithful in the hour of need, they were the type of men who laid the foundations of our Government broad and deep and strong. On a farm near Newton, Greene County, Pa., Reason McCann John was born May 13, 1844, being the fourth of seven children, the keystone in the family arch. His parents were John W. and Nancy (Haines) John. The grandfather, David John, who was of Welsh lineage, married Elizabeth McCann, who was of Irish descent. The maternal grandfather, George Haines, traced his ancestry to England, Holland and France, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Jane Hoffman, was of Scotch and Holland-Dutch extraction.

At the opening of the Civil War three brothers enlisted in the cause of the Union, the eldest brother, Rev. C. H. John, was wounded and captured under Confederate guns at Fort Pemberton, Vicksburg, and for ten days was a prisoner in the hands of the enemy. The second brother, Patton W. John was killed at the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, in the same charge and within three hundred yards of the spot where Albert Sidney Johnston gave up his life for the Southern cause. The younger brother, Reason McCann John, enlisted as a private in Company M, Tenth Illinois Cavalry, and joined his regiment at Camp Butler, near Springfield, Ill., December 20, 1861. The weather was severely cold in December and January and the soldiers suffered intensely. Exposure brought on rheumatism, and the dislocation of a hip left the young volunteer a cripple, so that he was sent home in 1862. Sick and without money, his position was unenviable, but with a fine spirit he took up work as a cobbler. He had seen his father make shoes and thought he could mend them, and indeed he did so well that soon he was making a neat little sum. When physically able to do other work, he gave up the trade. On May 19, 1864, he enlisted in Company

E, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, into which he was mustered as Fifth Corporal, but was promoted in a few days as fifth duty Sergeant, and as such he was mustered out on the 28th day of October, sixty-two days after his term of service had expired.

When only one year of age Reason McCann John was taken from his native State of Pennsylvania to Wood County, W. Va., where as soon as old enough he was sent to a subscription school. In 1853 the family moved to Marietta, Ohio, where for four years he attended the graded schools, and would have graduated from the grammar school in June, 1857, had the family not moved to Mattoon, Ill., in May of that year. At the age of thirteen years he ran away from home and began to "paddle his own canoe." In the fall of 1863 he entered Hedding College at Abingdon, Ill., and in 1866-67 was a student in Wesleyan College, Bloomington, his final schooling being obtained during the summer term of 1868 in the State Normal University at Normal, Ill. From 1866 until 1873 he taught school in McLean and Livingston Counties, and in April of the latter year located permanently at Pontiac, his present home. His first knowledge of business was obtained during the fall and winter of 1870, while working in the County Clerk's Office. When he entered the office of Olney & Fellows, on May 1, 1873, at twenty-nine years of age, he was practically ignorant of all business methods, having never had an opportunity to obtain a business training, yet notwithstanding that handicap he has won success and now owns 800 acres of first-class Illinois land, worth not less than \$200 per acre, besides which he owns other valuable property.

From May 1, 1875, to May 1, 1905, Mr. John was actively engaged in the excursion business, making loans, perfecting titles and buying and selling real estate. During 1905 and 1906 he owned a controlling interest in the Pontiac Sentinel Publishing Company, and for one year edited and published the Daily and Weekly Sentinel. Of that work he says that, while it afforded him considerable amusement, it was not a profitable investment. In the fall of 1894 he bought in Lee and Ogle Counties, Ill., for James E. Morrow, Curtis J. Judd and himself jointly, 2,560 acres of land, which the following year he developed by cutting a ditch for an outlet ninety-five hundred feet long, six feet deep, and from ten to twelve feet wide, putting in one hundred miles of tile, and otherwise improving the land. Eight hundred and forty acres were put under the plow for the first time and 245 acres were planted in corn, all of which he personally directed. At the same time he erected houses, barns and corncribs on the land and made other necessary improvements, so that at the harvesting of the large corn crop adequate facilities had been prepared for the same. Many of the leading business men of Rochelle, Ill., told him that they considered his enterprise was worth one-half million dollars to the community.

At one time Mr. John was associated with

Frank O. Evers, under the firm title of John & Evers. At another time, under the title of Wash & John, he had James R. Wash as a partner. Next, the title became John & Grandy, and then R. M. John & Co., the firm consisting of D. B. Hayden and R. M. John. With these various partners he was engaged in the abstract, real-estate, loan, insurance and excursion business. During 1902 he organized the John-Peaslee Shoe Company, and erected the fine factory building now occupied by The A. M. Legg Shoe Company of Pontiac. In this enterprise he invested \$50,000 in cash, but it did not bring adequate returns, and he sold his interest after it had been consolidated with the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company, a prosperous concern, that has proved to be a valuable acquisition to Pontiac. He was President of the John-Peaslee Shoe Company and acted as Chairman of the Building Committee.

As early as 1870 Mr. John was made a Mason in the Lexington (Ill.) Blue Lodge, from which he was demitted in 1873, and joined Pontiac Lodge No. 294, A. F. & A. M. For years he has been a member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R., at Pontiac. In politics he always has been staunch in his allegiance to the principles of the Republican party. Under the Administration of Gov. Joseph W. Fifer, he was appointed local Trustee of the Board of Managers of the Illinois State Reform School, and was elected President of the Board. Under the orders of the Governor he visited many of the penal and reformatory institutions of the country, and thus gained a broad knowledge of such concerns and the best methods of conducting them. His life has been one of such intense activity that he has had no leisure for participation in social events. In youth he ever bore in mind that in old age he would need shelter, food and raiment, and he labored to provide for that event, having a horror of being dependent. Indefatigable energy has brought a competency well deserved. Sharing with him in the esteem of the community is his wife, formerly Mary Nelson, whom he married at Pontiac, April 23, 1873, and who now, in their pleasant quarters at Phoenix Hotel, is enjoying the comforts accumulated by years of economy, industry and judicious management on their part, and with him holds the warm regard of a host of personal friends.

JOHNSON, Benjamin R.—The business career of the late Mr. Johnson affords an excellent illustration of what can be accomplished by one who possesses innate ability for business enterprises. Beginning in 1869 as a farmer in Esmen Township, Mr. Johnson found that this locality was not suited for his purpose, so the following year he removed to the vicinity of Fairbury. Two years later he operated a farm on Section 9, Esmen Township, but all this time he realized that his inclination pointed toward a different calling. In March, 1872, he came to Cornell and associated himself in the mercantile business with K. Heckman, and thus continued for a year when he sold



SAMUEL M. PRICER

his interest to Mr. Heckman. Mr. Johnson then started a similar business with his brother-in-law, S. M. Husted. This association existed amicably and profitably for seven years, after which Mr. Johnson bought the entire business and conducted it alone for five years. He then sold a half interest to E. A. Jamison, and two years later withdrew from his business and, with John Day, began handling cattle and hogs. Two years later he became interested in the same business with S. B. Miner, and this association continued until 1901, when Mr. Johnson withdrew.

In the mean time, Mr. Johnson and his two eldest sons, Frank and William R., formed a co-partnership known as B. R. Johnson & Sons, and on September 1st, 1899, started the Bank of Cornell with B. R. Johnson as President and William R. Johnson as Cashier. At this time Frank Johnson was engaged in the stock business, but in June, 1900, the firm of B. R. Johnson & Sons bought the lumber business from the estate of D. M. Brown and Frank became manager. While Mr. B. R. Johnson had other business interests, from this time on his time and energy were largely given to the building up of the two business enterprises of which he was the founder. Through close attention to his business and through untiring energy he was able, in the few remaining years of his life, to establish his bank and lumber yard among the leading business institutions of Livingston County. As a banker his dignified, conservative policy won for him the confidence and patronage of a large number of people, and his ideas continue to be carried out by his successors.

While never an office seeker, Mr. Johnson was frequently called upon by the community to enter into public work and, during his active career, held a number of public offices and positions of trust. He served as a member and as President of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Cornell a number of terms, and was for six years Supervisor from Amity Township, being known on the Board of Supervisors as the Prohibition member. For a number of years he was Village and School Treasurer. He was also Treasurer of the Pontiac Mutual County Fire Insurance Company, and of the Tiesburg Land Company of La Porte, Indiana. In addition to the Bank and Lumber Yard, Mr. Johnson owned about 300 acres of land in Livingston County; also land in Colorado and Indiana.

While ever attentive to his own business affairs, he was a man whose unselfish devotion to the interests confided to his care was a lasting benefit to those in any way associated with him, while his example contributed to their spiritual advancement. In fact, his conduct in all the relations of life bespoke the devout Christian.

On November 23rd, 1871, Mr. Johnson married Sarah E. Husted, who was born in Franklin County, Indiana, November 23rd, 1849, a daughter of William and Rachel W. (Miller-Whitney) Husted, natives of Bridgeton, N. J. At the time of her marriage to Mr. Husted, the mother of Mrs. Johnson was a Mrs. Whitney. Eight chil-

dren were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Estella, born September 27th, 1872, died August 14th, 1879; Franklin, born January 3rd, 1876, is President of the Farmers State Savings Bank of Cornell, and on March 29th, 1889, married Nellie Brown, daughter of D. M. Brown of Cornell; they have a family of seven children: Vera Bernice, Harold Franklin, Nellie Marie, Stella Brown, Benjamin Richard, Meredith William and Margaret Esther; William R., born December 9th, 1878, is a Methodist Missionary at Nan Chang, China; on September 12th, 1906, he married Ina L. Buswell of Polo, Illinois, and they have one child, William Buswell; Sidney E., born May 27th, 1881, is Cashier of the Farmers State Savings Bank of Cornell, and on December 25, 1907, married Lucinda Cotton Walker; they have one child John Howard; Harry, born November 18, 1883, is Assistant Cashier of the Bank in which his brothers are interested, and the manager of the Lumber Yard in Cornell; Marcina, born January 28th, 1886; Edward Amer, born January 4th, 1889, and Lucille, born March 3rd, 1892. Harry, Marcinda, Edward Amer and Lucille are living at home with their mother.

Mr. Johnson was a very prominent Methodist, acting as Trustee, Steward and District Steward of the Church, and for many years he was Superintendent of the Sunday School. He died in Clermont, Florida, where he had gone in search of health. His funeral, held Friday afternoon, March 6th, 1908, at the Methodist church of Cornell, was in charge of the pastor, the Rev. G. P. Snedaker, while former pastors assisted. In spite of the fact that the roads were in very bad condition, the old neighbors and friends of the family came in a body, and the large church edifice was too small to hold them all. The impressive services were most affecting, and the sermon held him up as the faithful Christian, the devoted husband and father and exemplary citizen.

JOHNSON, Edden Morris.—As with retrospective vision he reflects upon the progress made by Pontiac during the last several decades, Mr. Johnson might assert with truth, "All of which I saw, and part of which I was." Many have been the interests demanding his attention during the long period of his professional and business identification with Pontiac. Three times the highest office within the gift of the city, that of Mayor, has been conferred upon him. Other positions of official trust and responsibility have come to him without solicitation. As the head of important business enterprises, as a journalist of note, as banker, attorney and property-owner, he has wielded a large influence upon the highest development of his town and county, and has left the impress of his personality upon local history.

Monroe County, W. Va., is Mr. Johnson's native place, and May 11, 1845, the date of his birth. His parents, Morris and Minerva E. (Ellis) Johnson, were natives of this same county, the former being a son of Jacob John-

son of West Virginia, and the mother being a daughter of Colonel William Ellis, an officer in the Mexican War. After having conducted a mercantile business in West Virginia for some years, in 1856 Morris Johnson moved to Illinois, and after a few months spent near Bloomington, came to Pontiac, where he resumed mercantile business and also bought and sold farm lands, remaining here until his death in 1876. He is survived by his wife, who at the age of eighty-three years (in 1908) is still a resident of Pontiac.

Primarily educated in public schools, Edden Morris Johnson afterward enjoyed the best college advantages. For one year he attended Allegany college in Greenbrier County, W. Va. In 1867 he was graduated from the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., and later he took the law course in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. At the age of twenty-four years he began the practice of the law at Pontiac, where he has since made his home. During 1871 he purchased the "Free Trader," which as the organ of the Democratic party wielded a growing influence in the community in the ensuing years. The logical reasoning faculties of its founder were apparent in its editorial columns, and his arguments concerning national issues were of great benefit to the party locally. The paper was continued under the same management until July, 1907, when Mr. Johnson and his partner disposed of the plant and the printing business, since which time he has devoted his attention to the oversight of his various farms and other business interests, the latter including the presidency of the Illinois State Savings Bank of Pontiac, the presidency of the Modern Shoe Company, and of the Livingston County Building and Loan Association.

The marriage of Mr. Johnson took place December 8, 1869, by which he was united with Caroline M. Saxton, a cousin of Mrs. McKinley and a daughter of James Saxton, of Huntingdon, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two daughters: Mary E., born January 19, 1885, and Beulah, born May 28, 1886, and now a student in Monticello seminary at Godfrey, Ill. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church of Pontiac, in which Mr. Johnson has officiated as a trustee for several years. Deeply interested in educational affairs, he has been helpful in the promotion of local school interests through his services as President of the School Board. In recognition of his prominence in the Democratic party, he has been chosen as delegate to State and National Conventions of that party. In addition to holding the office of mayor, as before mentioned, he has been Supervisor of the township for two terms, frequently has been chosen Alderman from his ward, and for four years acted as a Trustee of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Normal. In fraternal relations he holds membership with the Masons and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

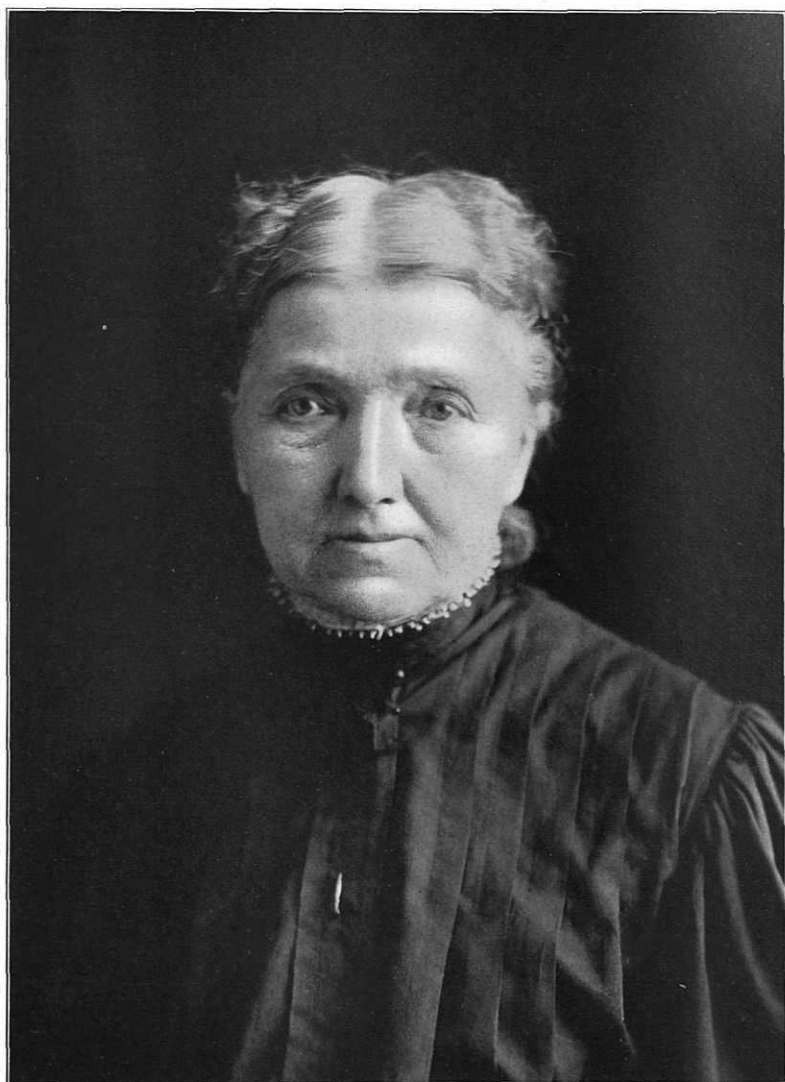
JOHNSON, Fordyce Benjamin.—Darius Johnson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was

born on a farm in Oswego County, N. Y., his parents being natives of Vermont, who removed to New York State soon after the War of 1812. The son, Darius, for a time attended school in winter and drove a canal-boat on the Erie Canal in summer, later engaged in teaching, thus earning means which enabled him to take a course in Castleton (Vt.) Medical College, from which he graduated in 1852. In 1853, he came to Illinois, locating in Pontiac, where he engaged in practice, being one of the first physicians to locate in that city. Still later he took courses in, and graduated from the Albany (N. Y.) and Louisville (Ky.) Medical Colleges. In 1862 he entered the service of the Government for the Civil War, being commissioned as Assistant Surgeon of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, from which he was soon after promoted to the rank of Surgeon, and took part under the command of Gen. Sherman in the "March to the Sea," being finally mustered out at Savannah, Ga., on account of disability. Then returning home he resumed practice in Pontiac, which he continued until his death, November 17, 1877. A successful practitioner in his profession, he was a Republican in politics, and at the time of his death occupied the position of Trustee of the University of Illinois by appointment of the Governor.

The maiden name of the wife of Dr. Darius Johnson was Rebecca Wood, who was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., July 29, 1833, her father being a native of Virginia and her mother of New York. She was married to Dr. Johnson, July 3, 1854, and they arrived in Pontiac July 17th of the same year, where Dr. Johnson had located one year previously. Here Mrs. Johnson has lived continuously ever since, occupying the same house for fifty-two years, and where at an early day she was actively engaged in temperance work. Three children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Darius Johnson, namely: Leander, who died in 1894; Fordyce B., and Geraldine, now Mrs. Jesse Turner, of Independence, Mo.

Fordyce B. Johnson, the second son of this family and subject of this sketch, was born in Pontiac, Ill., September 9, 1860, received his education in the public schools of that city and, in 1876, entered the office of the Pontiac Sentinel to learn the printer's trade. Two years later he went to Peoria, where he remained until 1883, when he removed to Omaha, Neb., where he worked as a compositor and reporter in the office of the Omaha World-Herald, later being similarly employed in Kansas City, Sioux City, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Chicago, New York and elsewhere. In 1894 he returned to Pontiac and has since been employed at different times as compositor, reporter and city editor on various papers, at present being connected with the Pontiac Free Trader and Observer as city editor.

Mr. Johnson was married September 12, 1899, to Miss Louise M. Cullom, and they have one



MARY E. PRICER

child, Helen May, born June 13, 1904. By a former marriage there were two sons: Gerald Fordyce Johnson, born February 1, 1884, and George N. Johnson, born March 8, 1887, both of whom reside in Chicago. While not a member of any secret society or any church, Mr. Johnston is President of the "Sons of Pontiac," is a Democrat in politics, and in his business life has always worked in some newspaper office, except while employed for two years in the Pontiac Postoffice. A man of genial character and affable manners, he enjoys the good will of a large circle of friends.

JOHNSTON, Ramy, a prominent citizen of Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., who is successfully engaged in the real estate line, and is recognized as a man of broad information and superior business qualifications, was born in Adams County, Ohio, January 9, 1851, a son of Mitchell and Lydia (Teachenor) Johnston. His parents were natives of that State, the father born in Brown County, and the mother in Adams County. The paternal grandparents, John and Sarah (Parker) Johnston, were natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. At an early period they moved to Ohio, and in 1862 to Marshall County, Ill., where the grandfather Johnston passed the closing years of his life. Grandmother Johnston died in Ohio, when nearly one hundred years of age. On the maternal side, the grandfather was Isaac Teachenor, the maiden name of whose wife was Sallie Stivers. They were among the pioneer settlers of Adams County, Ohio, and there spent the whole of their lives. Mitchell Johnston was reared on a farm, and educated in the common schools. By occupation, he was a farmer, and also a school teacher. Politically, he was a Republican, and in fraternal circles, was identified with the A. F. & A. M. His religious connection was with the Methodist church, to which his wife also belonged. They reared a family of seven children, one of whom is deceased. In 1875, they located in Pontiac, Ill., where they resided two years, when they moved to Fredonia, Kan., where they died. Ramy Johnston received his education partly in the common schools of Ohio, and at the age of fifteen years went to Missouri with his parents, and continued his school attendance there. After coming to Livingston County, Ill., in 1876, he was engaged in teaching in Graymont and its vicinity for ten years, and for some time followed farming there. He built the first house (except the section house) in Graymont, and now lives in the same building. In Graymont, during recent years, he has dealt in live-stock as well as real estate, but at present confines his attention to the latter, his transactions being extensive and profitable.

On February 10, 1875, Mr. Johnston was married to Laura Stretch, a native of Ohio and daughter of William and Elizabeth (Lupton) Stretch. The parents of Mrs. Johnston moved from Ohio to Missouri, where her father died June 30, 1905, her mother having passed away June 30, 1893. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnston were

born four children, as follows: an infant, deceased; Emma, Marion, and Clarence. Emma, who was educated in the public schools, is the wife of C. E. Russell, of Paxton, Ill., and has five children: Caro, Carl, Viola, Clark, and an infant unnamed. Marion married Lucia Marton, of Pontiac, Ill.; and Clarence is a conductor on the Interurban Electric Railway running out of Pontiac. The last two also received a common-school education.

In politics, Mr. Johnston is a Republican and has taken a leading part in local affairs. He has served as Township Clerk ten years; School Treasurer, ten years; and Assessor, four years. For twenty years, he has acted in the capacity of County Central Committeeman of his party. His experience as a Notary Public covers a period of twenty-five years. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, of which he has been a member since 1883.

JONES, Edwin B., member of the firm of E. B. Jones & Bro., and Postmaster of Manville, Ill., is a man thoroughly conversant with all the details of his several enterprises, and his familiarity with everything connected with them has given him a high standing in Livingston County. Mr. Jones was born at Wenona, Ill., September 26, 1867, his brother and partner, Lewis L. Jones, being born at the same place, June 12, 1869. They are sons of Z. R. and Julia (Stitt) Jones, the former a native of Ohio, who was married in Wenona, Ill., and now lives at Cornell, Ill.

The educational training of Edwin B. Jones began in the district schools in Newtown Township, Livingston County, and after its completion he taught school for three years in Newtown and Reading Townships. In 1890 he went to Streator, Ill., and there purchased an interest in the grain and feed business. This he operated for about a year, when in 1891 he sold out and returned to his former home. For the following nine years he was engaged with his father in the grain business at Smithdale, but on December 1, 1900, bought the stock of Leonard & Son, general merchants of Manville, Ill. This business he continued until 1902, when his brother, Lewis L. Jones, purchased an interest, and the present firm was organized. The partners then bought the stock of A. N. McCord, and consolidated the two concerns. A stock of shelf hardware, dry-goods, groceries, hats, caps, boots, shoes, clothing and farm implements is carried, aggregating \$5,000, and all the goods are thoroughly up-to-date and embody the latest ideas in the several lines. As they do so large a business, and have such extensive connections, and buy for cash, they are enabled to offer prices that are particularly inviting. The training Mr. Jones has enjoyed, and the ability he possesses enables him to attend to the various duties of his business with dispatch and during the years he has been in Manville, he has made an enviable reputation as a business man. As Postmaster, he discharged his duties with credit

to himself and to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Edwin B. Jones was married September 23, 1902, to Miss Joan Cornell, who was born in Cornell, Ill., a daughter of H. M. Cornell. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two sons: Edwin B., born July 24, 1904, and Marshall, born June 24, 1906. Mr. Jones was appointed Postmaster in 1901, and in 1904 a Rural Free Delivery route was established and a large mail is sent out from his office each day. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order of Cornell, Ill., and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Yeoman of Manville. A very active Republican, Mr. Jones has been a member of the Republican County Central Committee for ten or twelve years. In all their dealings, the Jones Brothers maintain a reputation for strictness, integrity and fair dealing, and their opinion in financial and commercial matters of any nature carry weight with their fellow townsmen.

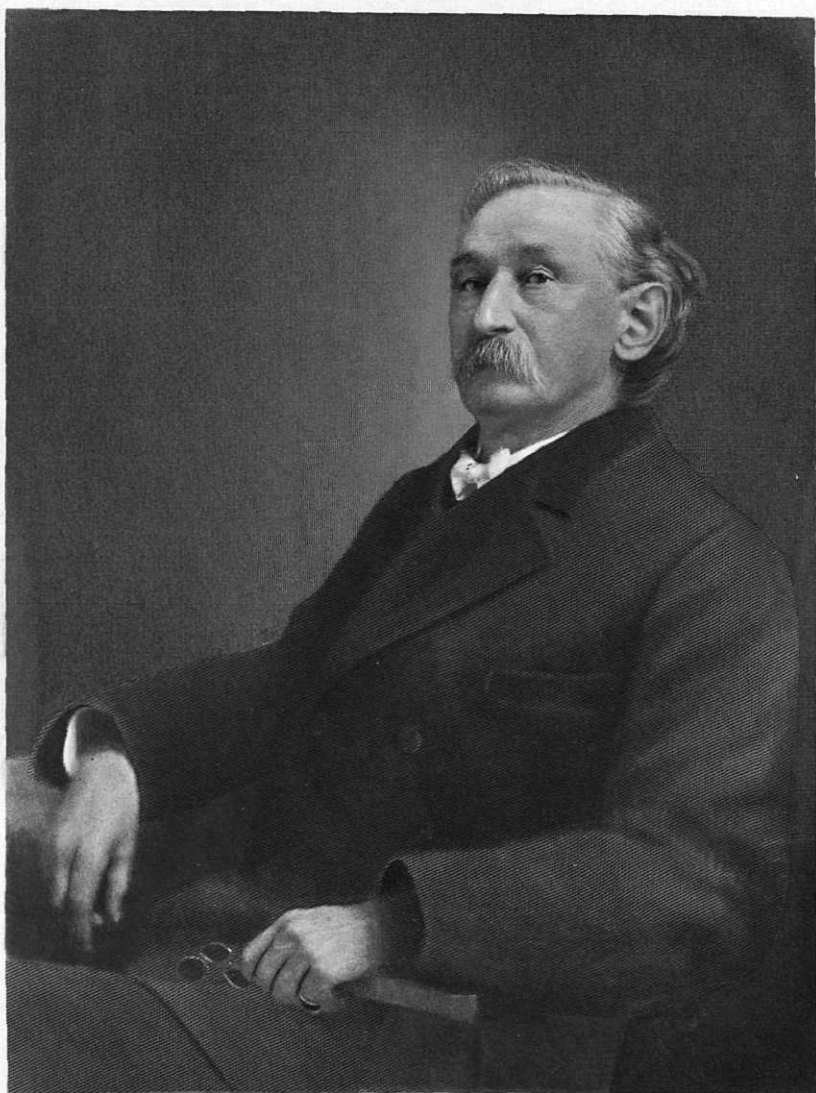
JONES, Melvin N.—It would be difficult to induce any farmer, fortunate enough to be located in the great Corn Belt, to admit that he did not inhabit the Garden Spot of the World, for within its confines lie some of the very best farms in the country, a fact that has been largely instrumental in making Illinois one of the leading States of the Union. Melvin N. Jones of Section 26, Avoca Township, Livingston County, is one of the progressive farmers of his locality, having been born in Johnson County, Ind., November 15, 1859, a son of Thomas J. and Minerva J. (Hosier) Jones, both natives of Johnson County, Ind., where they were reared, married and settled on a farm in Whitesville, Ind., where their seven children were born, namely: Melvin N.; Fanny, wife of A. J. McCrury, a mechanic residing at Ladoga, Ind., and they have three children—Everett, Chester and Claire; Horatio S., married a Miss Lizzie Clifford, and resides at Whitesville; Carrie, wife of George Redenbaugh, a resident of Montezuma, Ind., and they have six children; Aurelius, married Jennie Beckett and they have two children—Ernest and Katie—and live at Linnsburg, Ind.; Effie, wife of William Van Schoit, who has one child, Russell, her husband being a farmer of Whitesville, Ind.; Cordelia, wife of Bert Byers, a farmer near Whitesville, having two children—Nell and Dell. Mr. Thomas Jones has always been prominent in his community and active in the councils of the Democratic party, and has often been called upon to hold office. In religious matters he and his wife are members of the Methodist church.

Melvin N. Jones received a good common school education and was reared to work on the farm. As he looks back he can scarcely comprehend how they were able to accomplish so much with the crude machinery so different from the labor-saving devices of today. Remaining at home until he was twenty-five, about 1883 he went to State Line, Ind., and took charge of a tile factory, which he managed for ten years, making it one of the most successful

plants of its kind in Indiana. In 1893 he came to Livingston County to take charge of a tile factory owned by M. M. Spence, south of Fairbury, with whom he continued for three years, but about 1896 resigned this position to rent a farm known as the F. M. Eads farm, in Belle Prairie Township, consisting of 193 acres, and then realized the value of his experiences on the homestead. Mr. Jones was very successful and, in 1908, took charge of the Hugh Robinson farm on Section 26, Avoca Township, containing 225 acres, all under cultivation. Under his able management there is no doubt that the farm will prove productive. Mr. Jones is extensively engaged in breeding Poland-China hogs and Hampshire Down sheep, having a flock of 20 head of the latter. Through his energy, thrift and capacity for turning out work, Mr. Jones has won fullest confidence and respect from all with whom he is brought in contact.

On December 30, 1885, Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Letitia Alice Myers, born in Hooveysburg, Ind., September 15, 1867, a daughter of the Rev. John C. Myers and Cornelia (Spencer) Myers, natives of Indiana. For forty years Mr. Myers was a popular minister of the Christian church, and at the time of his death was a resident of State Line, Ind. His widow now resides at Danville, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have had the following children: Arthur L., born in State Line, October 15, 1886, a telegrapher and station agent at Lyons, Miss.; Lawrence M., born in State Line, March 11, 1889; Charles J., born in State Line, August 12, 1891; Mable Grace, born in Belle Prairie Township, August 21, 1894; Wilbur O., born in Belle Prairie Township, February 12, 1902; Don and Dora, twins, born May 25, 1906, in Belle Prairie. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are active members of the Christian church of Fairbury. In 1884 Mr. Jones joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has filled all its chairs, and also belongs to the Encampment. He was sent as delegate to the Grand Lodge in 1887, and the Encampment in 1888 at State Line. A lifelong Democrat, Mr. Jones served as Tax Collector of Belle Prairie Township for two years. He feels a deep interest in all reform movements and takes an active part in measures looking to the development and advancement of the community with which he is connected.

JOOST, Henry.—In Henry Joost were embodied those substantial traits which assure the immigrating German hearty welcome to American shores, and make him a dependable factor in practically all localities, and in all lines of human endeavor. Mr. Joost was born in Hanover, Northern Germany, June 15, 1857, and in his native land attended the kindergarten school for a short time, in 1865, when about seven years old, coming to America with his parents, Henry and Caroline (Rosa) Joost, and locating in LaSalle County, Ill. Two years later the father bought a farm of 160 acres in Sullivan Township, Livingston County, and in 1870 moved to Nevada Township, the same county, there



Dr Wm Louis Rabe

buying the same amount of land. To this he later added thirty-five acres, and in 1898 moved to a 20-acre farm adjoining Dwight on the southwest, where his death occurred in 1901. He had long been a widower, his wife having joined the silent majority in 1884.

From his fourteenth to his sixteenth year Henry Joost lived with an uncle in New York City, and during that time attended the public schools, finally in 1873 coming west to join his parents in Livingston County. October 15, 1882, he was united in marriage to Catherine Rancher, who was born in Good Farm Township, Grundy County, Ill., January 19, 1856, a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Ehemann) Rancher, natives of Bavaria, Germany, born June 29, 1820, and May 16, 1822, respectively. Mr. Rancher came to Illinois in 1849 and his future wife arrived the following year, the marriage ceremony being performed in November, 1850, in Chicago. For a year and a half the young people lived in Calhoun County, this State, then bought from the Government an 80-acre tract of land in Grundy County, paying for it \$1.25 an acre. This small farm Mr. Rancher improved and added to until he owned 400 acres of valuable and highly improved land. His death occurred August 31, 1888, being survived by his widow, who lived with her son John for fifteen years, and now makes her home with Mrs. Joost, her daughter.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Joost lived on his father's farm, when he bought the property outright, consisting at that time of 240 acres, to which he added forty acres. In February, 1899, he bought and moved to a 191-acre tract adjoining Dwight on the northwest, and here his death occurred September 1, 1899. He is buried in Oaklawn Cemetery. The family continued to live on the farm two years, when his widow bought five acres of land east of Dwight, built thereon a large modern house, and lives there with her five bright and interesting children. This home has ten rooms, is equipped with furnace, hot and cold water, bath-room and electric lighting, and is furnished throughout in comfortable and even luxurious fashion. Of the children in the family, Dora M., born June 6, 1886, is employed in the First National Bank of Dwight; Henry G. J., born June 15, 1889; John G. C., born March 21, 1892; George H. J., born February 23, 1895, and Ada E. A., born January 1, 1898. Mr. Joost was a Lutheran in religion, and in politics was a Democrat. In no sense an office-seeker, he yet filled many local offices of trust, including that of School Director of Nevada Township for nine years. He was an enterprising and public-spirited farmer, an obliging and dependable neighbor, and in his family was the soul of kindness and consideration.

JUDD, Curtis Judson, the efficient and widely known Secretary and Treasurer of the Leslie E. Keeley Company, of Dwight, Livingston County, Ill., and identified in prominent official capacities, and as a large stockholder, with a number of the

principal banking institutions and commercial enterprises in various parts of the State, was born at Otis, Mass., May 15, 1840. His parents were Judson and Corinthia A. (Dorman) Judd, the former born in Monterey, Mass., in 1819, and the latter in Tolland, Conn., in 1821. The Judd family is of English derivation, and its first representative in this country settled in Cambridge, Mass., in 1634. Oliver Judd, grandfather of Curtis J., was a prosperous farmer in Berkshire County, Mass., and a member of the Legislature in 1836 and 1837. Judson Judd was a physician by profession. He was a graduate of Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass. Dr. Judd died at Lee, Mass., in 1860, and his wife passed away in Pittsfield, Mass., in 1896.

In youth, Curtis J. Judd attended the common schools in South Lee, Mass., and afterwards, the Lee High School. Subsequently, he became a pupil in the Canning School at Stockbridge, Mass., and still later, in Bryant, Stratton & Packard's Business College in New York City, from which he was graduated in 1861. On completing his studies he located in Dwight, Ill., as clerk for David McWilliams until June, 1862. He then enlisted in Company B, One Hundred Twenty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in at Pontiac, Ill., on September 8th of that year. His regiment was attached to the First Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Army Corps, commanded by Gen. Benjamin Harrison, afterwards President of the United States. With Gen. Sherman they went through to the sea, taking part in the battles of Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, Averysboro, Columbia and Savannah, besides many of the skirmishes and minor engagements of Sherman's campaign, and being mustered out on June 8, 1865. A year after his enlistment he was promoted to be Sergeant-Major, and as such served until his honorable discharge. At the close of the war he was appointed auditor of military telegraph lines, with headquarters at New Orleans, his district including Texas and all lines south of Louisville. For thirteen months he acted in this capacity, the lines being then turned over to the civil authorities. Coming north to Chicago, he took charge of De Graff's clothing store, and, after remaining two years in that position, formed a partnership with David McWilliams at Dwight, Ill., which lasted seven years. On the dissolution of this partnership he spent fifteen months at Pontiac, Ill., in connection with the firm of Newell, Judd & Sims, engaged in the lumber trade, the concern being then profitably disposed of to a Pana (Ill.) company. Six months in each of the next two years were passed by Mr. Judd in the Gunnison mining district of Colorado, and in 1880 he joined Dr. Leslie E. Keeley and John R. Oughton, at Dwight, Ill., in introducing and developing the Keeley cure for drunkenness and the opium habit. An entire chapter devoted to the different Keeley institutes may be found on another page of this volume. On the organization of The Leslie E. Keeley Company, Mr. Judd was chosen Secretary and Treasurer,

and on the incorporation of the company, April 21, 1886, he was again elected to the same position, holding it until March 1, 1902, when Charles R. Romberger was made Secretary, Mr. Judd retaining the office of Treasurer. This he continued until Mr. Romberger's death, February 28, 1907, when he was a second time chosen Secretary and Treasurer, and is still acting in this double capacity.

In 1904, Mr. Judd was elected Vice-President of the Livingston County Bank, at Pontiac, and in January, 1908, became its President. He was made Vice-President of the First National Bank of Dwight in February, 1906, a position which he holds at present, being also a director in both of these banking institutions. He is one of the largest stockholders in the Bankers' National Bank, of Chicago, and besides his various official duties and responsibilities, has extensive investments in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri farming lands. Mr. Judd is a public-spirited, generous hearted man, of affable disposition and very courteous manner. He is an earnest supporter of all measures tending to promote the welfare and prosperity of the community in which he lives.

On November 24, 1880, Mr. Judd was united in marriage, at Cedar Falls, Iowa, with Miss F. Estelle Dow, a daughter of Isaac C. and Eliza (Harmon) Dow. Mrs. Judd was born in Ohio, her parents being natives of that State. This union resulted in two children, of whom Florence M., the elder, is the wife of Donald C. Bartholomew, who is connected with the D. C. Bartholomew Company, advertising agents at Boston, Mass., the Bartholomew home being, however, at Jamaica Plain, a suburb of Boston. Arthur C. Judd, the son, is also connected with the D. C. Bartholomew Company.

Politically, Mr. Judd is a Republican and, although quite indifferent to party honors, has served as a member of the Village Board of Trustees in Dwight, and as President of that body. Fraternally, he is affiliated with Livingston Lodge, No. 371, A. F. & A. M., at Dwight; Wilmington Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M.; Joliet Commandery, No. 4, K. T.; Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine, Chicago; and Pontiac Lodge, No. 1019, B. P. O. E. He is also a member of the Union League and Kenwood clubs, of Chicago; the Commercial Club of Dwight, and of Dwight Post, No. 626, Grand Army of the Republic.

KALKWARF, Dirk H., a retired farmer now residing in the village of Flanagan, Livingston County, Ill., a man of high character and ample financial resources, who through many years of diligent effort, thrifty management and fair dealing has made an honorable record, besides accumulating a handsome competency, was born in Hanover, Germany, on May 29, 1836. Mr. Kalkwarf is a son of Henry D. and Volmkea (Redwes) Kalkwarf, natives of that country, where the birth of both parents took place in 1805. Henry D. Kalkwarf, who followed farm-

ing for a livelihood came to the United States with his wife and family in 1856, locating in Woodford County, Ill. The first wife of Henry Kalkwarf died in Germany. He married again, his second choice being Jennie Peters, who died in 1890, he dying in 1888. By his first wife he had four children, and by his second, eight. Of the first four, Dirk H. is the only one now surviving, while there are three living of the second family.

Dirk H. Kalkwarf was reared on the home farm in Germany, and received his education in the public schools of that country. In 1886 he came to America in a sailing vessel, the trip consuming nine weeks, the landing taking place in New Orleans. From New Orleans he made his way to Peoria, Ill., arriving three days before Christmas, and from there went to Watseka, Ill., where he remained eighteen months. Then, in 1858, he came to Livingston County, rented land for a year, when he bought forty acres, improved it and kept on adding to his holdings, until he became the owner of 360 acres of very desirable land. Besides this, he owns nine lots and a comfortable residence in the village of Flanagan, to which he moved in 1903, on withdrawing from agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Kalkwarf was married in Livingston County, Ill., on February 15, 1860, to Tonna Baumann, a daughter of William and Anna (Bloom) Baumann, natives of Germany, and early settlers in Livingston County, coming here about 1854. The children of this marriage are as follows: Henry, who married Anna Block, is farming in Woodford County, and has seven children; Anna, married J. Wey Annessen and they reside in Thayer County, Neb., and have one daughter; Frank, married Lizzie Gerrells and they reside in Flanagan, Ill., and have two boys and one girl; Dolkert, who died January 18, 1901, aged thirty-three, left a widow, Matilda (Monk) Kalkwarf, who resides in Livingston County; Albert, who is unmarried, is in the implement business in Flanagan, Ill.; George, who married Anna Hubben resides in Livingston County and they have three boys; John, married Anna Obert, and they reside in Livingston County and have two boys; Minnie, married John Hiemkem, and they reside on a farm in Livingston County and have three sons and three daughters; Dena, who married William Vissenring, and they reside near Minonk, Ill.; Jennie, deceased; Dirk, who resides in North Dakota; David, Jennie and Tena at home.

In politics Mr. Kalkwarf has always been a supporter of the Democratic party. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

KAMINKE, William H., one of the reliable and public-spirited farmers and stock raisers of Reading Township, is the proprietor of a fine farm on Section 28, upon which he has made many valuable improvements appertaining to a first-class modern homestead. The fields are well laid off for the growing of grain and for pasturage, the fences are substantially built and kept in good repair, and the property is fully



RESIDENCE OF THEODORE H. LOMMATSCH

equipped with the most highly improved machinery. Mr. Kaminke was born in this Township, October 30, 1866, a son of Godlieb and Mary (Turk) Kaminke, both natives of Berlin, Germany. The mother, who was born December 1, 1841, came to the United States in 1859 when about nineteen years old. Landing in New York, she went from there to Earlville, Ill., and in 1861, met Mr. Kaminke, an old friend. Later she went to Ottawa, Ill., and he there married her, October 8, 1863. After their marriage they came to Livingston County, where he bought eighty acres of land on Section 28, Reading Township, where his death occurred in July, 1867, and where his wife still makes her home. They had two children: Frances, who married John Reffert, a resident of Calhoun County, Iowa, and William H.

Mrs. Kaminke married William Shultz, and they had two children: Nina, who married Morris William, of Chicago, Ill.; and Ida, now of Streator, Ill. She again married, her third husband being Henry Warmbold, who died in 1898, and they had one daughter, Emma, wife of Frank Hooper of Fair Oaks, Ind.

William H. Kaminke was born on the homestead and received a common school education. At an early age he began to assume the duties of farm life, and has followed farming and stock-raising all his life, although he has been called upon quite frequently to fill various township offices. He was first elected as Road Commissioner, but after two years' service resigned. In 1903 he was elected by a good majority as Supervisor of Reading Township over a strong opposition, and having given entire satisfaction to his constituents, was returned to that office in 1907. This is not an easy office to fill, but Mr. Kaminke carefully studied the situation, and has made one of the best Supervisors that Reading Township has ever known. The County Board of Livingston County is composed of men of more than average ability and the service they are rendering the county is changing and improving conditions in the various townships very materially. Mr. Kaminke is also a member of the School Board of District 39, Reading Township. He is a Republican, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Ancona, Ill., and a man of considerable importance not only in his own township, but throughout the county. The homestead where he has worked so hard to bring about the present conditions, has always been his home. He owns 108 acres in Calhoun County, Iowa, which is devoted to general farming and stock-raising. Mrs. Warmbold, his mother, is a pleasant, hospitable German lady, with all the excellent traits of the housewives of her native land, and is very popular in the Township.

KAMMERER, Mathias, manufacturer of concrete building blocks and contractor for public buildings, out-buildings, foundations, cement walks, etc., Fairbury, Livingston Co., Ill. In no other branch of building has there been, during the past twenty-five years, development commen-

surate with that in the use of cement. Gradually this material has supplanted other materials in certain parts of buildings and in certain construction of other kinds, and there are those who predict that it will be the chief building material of the future, as it seems to have been in ages long past. One of the most prominent builders in this line in Central Illinois is Mathias Kammerer, who has originated many ideas in cement block and brick work, including fancy porch work to which he gives special attention. With the use of mineral colors he does concrete work in any tint desired, for facing brick or for columns and bannisters, which is practically indestructible. The possibilities in this line are numerous and he has recently increased his productive capacity by the addition of the manufacture of concrete monuments.

A son of Christian Kammerer, born February 24, 1867, Mr. Kammerer arrived with his parents in America from Germany, their native land, July 15, 1883, when he was little more than sixteen years old. They located first at Forreston, Ogle County, Ill., but soon came to Fairbury, where Mr. Kammerer's parents still live. The boy had attended school eight years in Germany, and being naturally quick to acquire a knowledge of languages, had little difficulty in soon picking up enough English to enable him to get an acquaintance with Americans and their ways. His father was by trade a clock-maker, but the son did not incline to that kind of work and found employment on a farm, in which he persevered until 1887, obtaining considerable practical knowledge of different kinds and saving a little money. He then went to Chicago, where for several months he worked at stone masonry, in a practical way learning a good deal about that and kindred construction work. Returning to Fairbury in the fall of that year, he began contracting for the excavation and construction of cellars and other similar work. From a small beginning he soon branched out into all kinds of foundation and plastering work. Profiting by experience, he was soon able to compete with other contractors in all kinds of ordinary building required in the village and country round about. In 1900 he began the construction of concrete sidewalks, for which he found a constantly increasing demand and in which he was able to satisfy the most particular customer. In 1902 he began making concrete blocks in a little fourteen by twenty-foot building, which he was obliged to enlarge the following year. By 1904 his operations became so extensive that he found it expedient to buy a lot 50 by 158 feet in area, on which he erected a block cement factory building covering a ground space of 30 by 50 feet, which he enlarged in 1906 to 70 by 80 feet. In 1907 he installed in his factory motor power and machinery for the manufacture of concrete blocks of all sizes, sewer pipe and kindred products. His work in these various lines compares favorably with that of any of his competitors. Auxiliaries to his line are catch-basins for sewers or public works, concrete posts and concrete monuments. He turns out all kinds of

porch work including steps, railings and columns. The many who have patronized him have found his work artistic and durable and as a consequence the demand for it is rapidly growing. Mr. Kammerer may be considered a pioneer in his line. The first enterprise of the kind in the vicinity was started at Springfield, Ill., and his plant at Fairbury was the second. He considers that his business, large as it is, is only in its infancy and his plans for the future are very comprehensive. Concrete buildings are finding favor everywhere. Passing over all economic considerations, it has been demonstrated that, concrete blocks being hollow, houses built of them are drier than brick houses. A neat inside finish is secured by lathing and plastering in the ordinary way. There is no new idea in his line of work that escapes his notice, and, his powers of invention have enabled him to introduce many improvements tending alike to economy, beauty and lasting quality.

Mr. Kammerer married Margareta Meister, October 5, 1895. A native of Germany, she came over the sea with her parents and settled at Fairbury, where her father died and where her mother still lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Kammerer have been born six children—Christian, John, Lydia, Joseph, Emil and Ezra, who have been named here in the order of their birth. The people in Mr. Kammerer's part of Germany are communicants of the Amish Apostolic Church, and a church of that faith has been established at Fairbury, of which he and his family and many of their German friends are members. Mr. Kammerer is in no sense a practical politician, but he has decided ideas upon all public questions, takes just pride in Fairbury and its institutions and is ready at all times to aid to the extent of his ability any measure for the general good.

KEENETH, Leonard John, a typical "self-made" man, who, starting out in life for himself with no capital but good health, grit and tenacity of purpose, has developed into one of the most substantial and prosperous farmers in Livingston County, Ill., was born in Bavaria, Germany, June 15, 1858, a son of John and Margaret (Zopf) Keeneth, natives of Bavaria, the father born in 1812 and the mother in 1823. Leonard Keeneth, the grandfather, was a farmer in Germany, while the father, John Keeneth, was a shoemaker by trade, living in a small village but owning a small farm near by which supplied the family with many of the ordinary necessities of life. He was a thrifty tradesman and in comfortable circumstances, and being an excellent musician, played in a large band. His death occurred in Germany in 1885, and soon afterwards his widow came to the United States, to live with her children, finally dying in 1905. The family consisted of three sons and three daughters, of whom those still living besides the subject of this sketch are: John C., of New York City, a dealer in kindling wood, who buys large tracts of pine forest and has the timber converted into kindling and shipped to

New York; Lizzie (Mrs. John Myer), of Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Minnie (Mrs. Henry Jones), whose husband is the owner of a paper factory in that State.

In boyhood, Leonard J. Keeneth attended the public schools of his native land, and when fourteen years of age started alone for the United States. Landing in New York City, he stayed there eight years, working at first in a grocery, and afterwards, with his brother, John C. In the spring of 1881, he came to Bloomington, Ill., and was employed one year on a farm near that city. At that time he became acquainted with a man named "Charley" Cordes, who, with his partner, was farming east of Bloomington. He bought this partner's interest in tools, stock, crops, etc., and farmed in partnership with Cordes for four years, living at the outset in bachelor's quarters, and subsequently with his partner, when the latter was married. Then he made a visit to New York, and returning in 1881, farmed for two years on rented land near his former location, at the end of this period moving to Odell Township, Livingston County. In the spring of 1888, he rented a farm four miles east of Odell, which he occupied one year. Following this he bought eighty acres, and has acquired more at intervals until his land holdings now comprise 340 acres in Odell Township. All of the land is thoroughly tilled, and on it many improvements have been made. Aside from general farming Mr. Keeneth raises a good grade of horses.

On February 16, 1886, in Bloomington, Ill., Mr. Keeneth was married to Caroline Vandekar, who was born just east of Bloomington, September 16, 1860. Mrs. Keeneth is a daughter of Jerry and Lizzie (Cummings) Vandekar, and her father, a farmer by occupation, now lives in Paulding, Ohio. The children resulting from this union are as follows: Frank, born February 17, 1890; Ray, born March 21, 1892; Ernest, born January 10, 1894; Grace, born October 27, 1897; and Lindon, born October 15, 1902.

Politically, Mr. Keeneth is a Republican, but with no aspirations for public office. He has, however, served as School Director for fourteen years. In Germany, he was reared in the Lutheran faith, but is liberal in his religious views, and he and his family attend the Congregational church. He is one of the leading farmers and most favorably known citizens of his locality.

KELLY, Edmund J., D. D. S., who is successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry in Chatsworth, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Wilmington, Will County, in the same State, February 6, 1879. His father, Michael R. Kelly, is a resident of Joliet, Ill., where he was for many years interested in various industries. The boyhood of Edmund J. Kelly was mainly passed in Chicago, from which city the senior Kelly then engaged as a traveling salesman. The primary education of Edmund J. was obtained in the Chicago public schools, and he graduated from the Joliet High School with the Class of '97. After spending two years in



J. L. Ryan

clerical work, he applied himself to the study of dentistry at the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in 1899, graduating therefrom in 1902. Soon afterwards he went to Moline, Ill., and there opened an office for the practice of his profession, changing his location to Chatsworth four years later, where he succeeded Dr. O. H. Brigham, who had been a dentist in Chatsworth for twenty-seven years. The latter withdrew from practice, and is now in Missouri, living in retirement. Dr. Kelly devotes his attention closely to his professional duties, and has a good patronage. He is fond of athletic sports, and in intervals of leisure, enjoys a good game of base ball as much as anyone.

Politically, the subject of this sketch is Independent. Religiously, he was reared in the Catholic faith and is a communicant of St. Peter and St. Paul's church. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Columbus. He was married June 22, 1908, to Miss Mary Frances Kueffner, daughter of William Kueffner, a well known and respected farmer of Chatsworth Township.

KELLY, Thomas William, of Dwight Township, Livingston County, Ill., is a creditable example of that class of worthy men, who, beginning with nothing but health and a determination to succeed, make their own way in the world, unaided, and by dint of industry, sobriety, honesty and economy, accumulate a competence. Mr. Kelly is a native of Ireland, a son of James and Ann (Newman) Kelly, both born in the Emerald Isle. A year after his son, Thomas W., the father, who, in the old country, was a shepherd by occupation, followed the former to America, locating in the vicinity of Kingston, N. Y., where he and his family lived three years. Thence they went to Chicago, and after spending a short time in that city, moved to Lacon, Ill., where they stayed a year, going next to Dwight, Ill., where the parents passed their last days. Both were members of the Catholic Church. Politically, James Kelly was a Democrat. Thomas W. Kelly attended the grammar school in his native town, and when he was fifteen years old emigrated to the United States. After three years spent in New York State he went to Chicago, where he was employed for several years by a wholesale tea and coffee house. Becoming dissatisfied with life in a large city, however, he changed his location to Dwight, Ill., and there worked by the month, being engaged mainly in digging ditches. In 1864, he was drafted for service in the army, but secured a substitute. About that time he bought eighty acres of land in Dwight Township, to which he added until he had acquired 240 acres. At present he owns 160 acres of well-improved land, having given eighty acres to his sons.

Mr. Kelly was married in New York State, to Bridget Shaw, who was born in Ireland. Her father, William Shaw, came to this country in the '50s and lived a few years in Dwight, but passed his last days in Chicago. His wife died

in Ireland. The children resulting from this union were nine in number, as follows: Thomas William; William Samuel, of Campus, Ill.; Mary Ann; Margaret; Thomas Francis, of Dwight Township; Elizabeth; Bernard; Patrick, and James, who lives in Joliet, Ill.

In politics, Mr. Kelly is a supporter of the Republican party, and has served the public one term as School Director. He and his good wife are devout members of the Catholic Church.

KERR, Henry Martin (deceased).—During practically the entire course of a life that was all too brief for the consummation of his hopes and aspirations, yet was sufficiently long to prove the high value of his citizenship and the high moral principles actuating his deeds, Mr. Kerr remained a resident of Livingston County. The farm which he purchased in Pontiac Township and which was cultivated under his sagacious direction, still remains in the family and, after his death, it was for some years personally superintended by his widow. Had he been spared to old age, undoubtedly greater honors and a higher degree of success would have fallen to his lot, yet no small share of success already had crowned his labors when his untimely death removed him from the scenes of his early efforts.

The Kerr family was established in Livingston County by George and Susanna (Kessler) Kerr, natives of Ohio, where their son, Henry Martin, was born October 7, 1855. The date of the first coming of the family to Livingston County was the year 1856, but after a brief sojourn they returned to Ohio. Again in 1862 they came to Illinois and settled on the land they had secured during their first trip to the State. For some years they engaged in general farming, but about 1871 came to Pontiac, the son Henry at that time being a boy of eighteen years. The advantages of the excellent schools of Pontiac were possible to him, and thus he acquired a fair education. Before entering upon his life-work of farming he tried other occupations, learning telegraphy and also, for a time, engaging in the grain business at Streator. His first identification with farming took him to the old homestead, but at the time of his marriage he removed to an adjoining farm and there the balance of his life was busily but quietly passed. His death occurred October 6, 1891, while watching the drilling of a well on his father's farm. A part of the tubing which was hoisted in the air broke and struck him on the head, fracturing his skull. The accident happened at 3 o'clock and Mr. Kerr expired at 7 o'clock in the evening, never regaining consciousness after the fatal blow. The funeral was held at his father's house—his body being interred in the Pontiac cemetery.

The marriage of Henry Martin Kerr and Belle Beitman was solemnized January 2, 1884, and brought them mutual happiness until severed by death. Mrs. Kerr was born near Cayuga, Livingston County, Ill., March 31, 1862, a daughter of David and Frances (Ullery) Beitman, na-

tives of Troy, Ohio, but early residents of Livingston County, where her education was acquired. Her paternal grandfather, Jacob Beitman, was born in Pennsylvania and married a Miss Thompson. Her maternal grandparents were Jacob and Mary Ann (Hill) Ullery, the former of German descent. Two daughters comprised the family of Mr. and Mrs. Kerr, namely: Mary Elizabeth, born November 26, 1884, and now a milliner in Pontiac; and Verna Susanna, March 26, 1886, a teacher in the public schools of Livingston County. The mother remained with her daughter on the farm after the death of Mr. Kerr, but after a year she ceased to operate it personally, the work proving too arduous for her strength. Since then the 120 acres comprising the estate, have been leased to tenants. During 1899 she erected a residence at 1219 North Locust Street, Pontiac, where she has since resided and where she and her daughters have enjoyed the companionship of a large circle of warm friends.

KERR, John B., a well known citizen of Pontiac, Ill., and a man of abundant financial resources and high character who was formerly engaged in conducting farming operations in Livingston County, Ill., was born in Concord Township, Miami County, Ohio, October 14, 1859, a son of George and Susanna (Kessler) Kerr, natives of that State and county, where his father was born December 25, 1824. The paternal grandparents, James and Sarah (Thompson) Kerr, were natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively, the Kerrs being of Scotch descent, and the ancestors of the Thompson family being English. They had twelve children, four of whom are living. On the maternal side, the grandparents were John B. and Susanna (Fiege) Kessler, likewise natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. The maternal grandfather was a native of Holland, and a soldier in the War of 1812. Grandfather Kessler and his wife settled, at an early period, in Miami County, Ohio, where the remainder of their lives was spent. They, also, were the parents of twelve children. George Kerr, the father, was a farmer by occupation. He was reared in his native county, receiving a limited education. His marriage with Susanna Kessler took place November 26, 1844. In 1856 he came to Livingston County, Ill., and after staying eight months, went back to Ohio, where he remained six years. In 1862 he returned to Livingston County, locating on a farm containing over 600 acres, where he made his home until death summoned him away, February 24, 1894. His wife survived him a little more than four years, passing away June 10, 1898. Both were members of the Presbyterian church, in which the father officiated as an elder for thirty-five years. Their family consisted of eight children, of whom but one is still living. Politically, George Kerr was a Democrat.

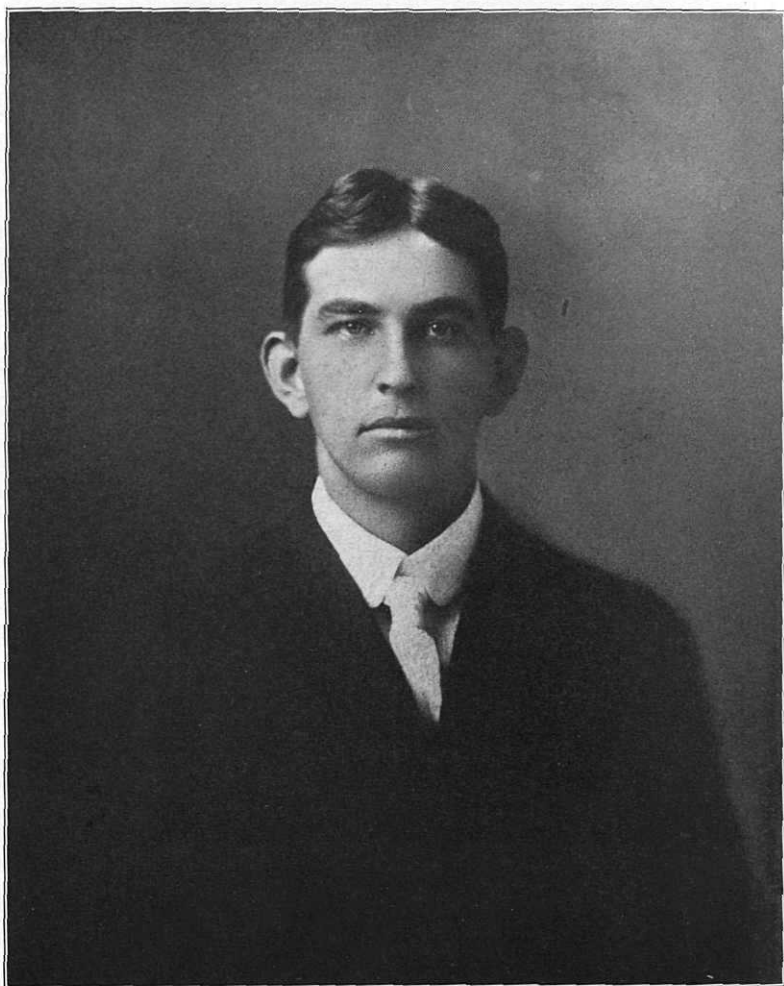
John B. Kerr, the sole survivor of this family, was brought up on the home farm, and received his education in the public schools of Pontiac.

During the closing years of his father's life, he assumed the management of the place, continuing thus until the latter's death. Then he moved to Pontiac, buying a residence at No. 917 North Main Street, the same house in which he had lived when a boy. Thinking that Canadian lands afforded a better investment than his father's estate, he has sold all but 130 acres of the home place, and purchased four sections of land near Arcola, in Southeastern Saskatchewan.

On December 20, 1881, Mr. Kerr was married to Henrietta Stemm, born in Livingston County, Ill., a daughter of Emanuel H. and Laura (Miller) Stemm, who came to Livingston County from Pennsylvania at an early period. Mr. Stemm owns 320 acres of land in the vicinity of Morris, Manitoba. Together with his wife he is living retired in Pontiac. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr have reared four children, as follows: Miriam Elizabeth, born in 1886 and educated in the Pontiac High School; George Henry Howard, born in 1888; Susanna, born in 1890; and Josephine Henrietta, born in 1892. The last two are students in the Pontiac Central School.

Politically, Mr. Kerr takes an independent course. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church, of which the entire family are members.

KERRINS, James H., who is successfully engaged in the grain and coal trade at Chatsworth, Ill., was born in Brenton Township, Ford County, Ill., eight miles northeast of Chatsworth, October 20, 1864. He is a son of Thomas and Mary (Meehan) Kerrins, natives of County Sligo, Ireland, whence the father came to the United States in 1857, landing in New York City, and soon going to Fort Plain in the same State. Thomas Kerrins had been reared to farm life, but was handy with tools, and found work in connection with brick and stone construction, being also engaged in running a ferry boat on the Hudson River. He was subsequently employed in a seminary at Fort Plain and while there met and married Mary Meehan. In 1865, he moved to Livingston County, Ill., and located on a farm three and a half miles northwest of Chatsworth, April 15 of that year. He began farming in Charlotte Township, without financial resources, and as the land was low and wet, his task was an arduous one. Starting with eighty acres, he continued to acquire more until, in 1893, he was the owner of a section of land which was highly improved. His holdings were afterwards diminished by sales to 320 acres. This farm is one of the most desirable farming properties in the county. In the year last mentioned, Thomas Kerrins rented his farm and took up his residence in Chatsworth, where he bought property, owning a business block. He died in Chatsworth, April 10, 1902, but his widow, still surviving, is a resident of that village. They reared a family of six sons and two daughters, as follows: Ellen, wife of James W. Ford, Assessor of Chatsworth; James H.; Charles, a farmer in Decatur County, Iowa; Thomas P.,



Jos. Slagel

who operates the homestead farm; John A., in Real Estate business; Dennis J., who works for his brother James in the elevator, of Chatsworth; Martin, who conducts a grain elevator at Healey, Ill., and is station agent of the Illinois Central Railroad Company; and Katie, wife of Patrick J. Lawless, of Chatsworth. In politics, Thomas Kerrins was a Democrat, and held minor township offices.

James H. Kerrins remained on the home farm until 1893, working with his father, together with his younger brothers, and then in company with his brother, John A., he engaged in the grocery and commission business. Disposing of his interest to his brother eighteen months later, he established himself in the grain trade, starting in 1895, the elevators with which he was then connected being owned by the Rogers Grain Company, and located in Chatsworth, Charlotte and Healey. On January 1, 1908, he took charge of the Illinois Central Railroad Company elevator at Chatsworth, on a lease, and is making a complete success of the undertaking. Mr. Kerrins is not married but occupies the family residence with his mother. He is the executor of the paternal estate. Aside from business cares, he is fond of athletic games.

Politically, the subject of this sketch is a Democrat, but in the main has kept aloof from active politics. He served, however, three years on the Village Board, and held the office of Mayor of Chatsworth in 1898. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, being on the local board of Managers. He is further identified with the M. W. A., in which he is Banker of the Chatsworth Camp; and also belongs to the K. of P. In religion Mr. Kerrins was reared to the Catholic faith, his parents having been among the original members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Chatsworth.

KESSLER, Walter A., plumbing and heating, West Main Street, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. That this is the day of the young man in business is quite apparent, whatever way one turns for evidence. That it is not the day of men of single ideas is likewise manifest. Half a century ago men prided themselves upon knowing no business but one, and many of them believed that they could not have succeeded in any other line than that to which they had given their attention from boyhood. The business man to-day is many-sided. First of all, he takes care to be trained as a business man. After that the management of one kind of business or another, in a small town or a large one, is equally easy after a few details have been mastered. The head of a business, without claiming to know all that may be known of it, employs men who understand it in its different departments, and laying broad plans holds them responsible for minor things. These thoughts have been suggested by a consideration of the brief but successful career of the man whose name is above.

Walter A. Kessler was born in LaSalle County, Ill., September 23, 1875, a son of Adam and Margaretta (Riedel) Kessler. His father was a native of Germany and his mother born in

the State of New York. Adam Kessler was born in 1828, and came to the United States in 1844, being then sixteen years old. In 1849 he settled in LaSalle County. At that time the California gold excitement was rapidly extending throughout the country and gold-seekers were flocking there by thousands. Mr. Kessler caught the gold fever and went to California overland. While he made no big strike, he was reasonably successful and in 1851 returning to LaSalle County bought land there. He immediately set to work to improve this property and in due time developed it into a fine farm. In 1876 he removed to Livingston County and settled in Fayette Township, where he bought 160 acres of land. His land was wild and uncultivated, the soil of black loam, much of it under water. Later he made other purchases of land nearby until eventually he owned 1,000 acres in one body, all tiled and under a high state of cultivation. On his original farm he erected a fine home for his family, large barns and stock buildings, with all necessary outhouses. He gave his attention especially to general farming, and came to be known as one of the most successful farmers in central Illinois. In due time he removed to Fairbury, where he enjoyed the fruits of a well spent life up to the date of his death, on June 22, 1904, his wife having died July 3, 1900. Mr. Kessler was a lover of home, but liked to travel and made several trips around Cape Horn, but after his last trip never returned to his native land. When his father died, leaving a large estate, he made no claim to his legal share of it, reasoning that he had had all of his active years to himself and had prospered and that his brother and sister, who had remained with their parents, were justly entitled to the property. He read widely and studiously, and was well informed upon all public issues and gave special attention to politics, which he viewed from the standpoint of a Republican. While he never sought public honors, not a few were thrust upon him. As Supervisor of Fayette Township, and in other offices of trust and responsibility, he righteously promoted the interests of his community and carefully guarded the public funds. He and his wife were active and liberal members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Public education had in him a loyal and earnest supporter.

The following facts concerning the children of Adam and Margaretta (Riedel) Kessler are pertinent in this connection. Their daughter Lizzie, of Fairbury, is the widow of John Straesser, and she has sons named Arthur and Charles. Mary married William Courtney, a farmer of Fayette Township, and she has two children—Grace and Earl Courtney. Emma lives at Fairbury, a member of the family of her brother Joseph. Arthur married Miss Rosa Duenger, and died in 1904. His widow, who bore him children named Arthur, Della, Esther and Hazel, lives at Gibson City, Ill. Anna died aged eighteen years. Edward, who lives on the home farm in Fayette Township, married Miss Hattie Farghayer and has children named Pearl, Clarence and Edna. Joseph C. is manager of the telephone exchange, of Fairbury. Bertha

is living at Fairbury. Walter A. is the immediate subject of this sketch. These children, with the exception of Joseph and Bertha, were born in LaSalle County, while Joseph and Bertha were born in Fayette Township, Livingston County.

Walter A. Kessler came to Livingston County with his parents and the days of his boyhood were spent on his father's farm. He was educated in the district schools in Fayette Township and in the Fairbury High School. While yet a mere lad he was ever ready to do what he could to assist his father and older brothers, and he has a distinct recollection of having many times mounted a horse and ridden over his father's marshy fields to chase away the wild geese and wild ducks which sought the grain before it was sprouted. Those early days on the farm in Fayette Township were busy ones, but he remembered them as happy days. When his father retired from active life Walter took charge of the farm. September 12, 1900, he married Miss Mary Keller, a native of Fairbury, born December 15, 1870, a daughter of George Keller, a contractor and builder, who died leaving many of the best residences at Fairbury and in the surrounding country as monuments to his skill and industry. In the course of business Mr. Kessler became a stockholder in the House of J. A. Ingle & Co., manufacturers of farming implements at Peoria. In 1905 he moved from the farm to Fairbury and, for a year, was a traveling salesman for the concern just mentioned. In 1906 he resigned that position and bought the plumbing establishment of J. K. Schick, at Fairbury. Carrying a complete stock of plumbing goods and heating apparatus, he makes a specialty of large jobs of plumbing and heating, employing none but first-class workmen in any department of his business. He has made a notable success of this enterprise and has taken a high place in the business circles of the city and county. He is actively interested in everything pertaining to the public weal and, as a Republican, has been elected Road Commissioner and School Director in Fayette Township, though since he came to Fairbury he has declined all official honors. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Court of Honor, of the Knights of Pythias, of the Eagles and of the Dramatic Order of Knights Khorassen. Mr. and Mrs. Kessler are attendants upon the services of the Presbyterian Church and are generous supporters of the interests of that organization. They have a son named Walter Bernell, born April 22, 1901, and a daughter named Dorothy Helen, born November 23, 1904.

KETCHAM, John D., Dwight, Livingston County, Ill. The life of this man clearly illustrates the value of good character in the achievement of commercial and social success. He came of good old American stock and was in many conspicuous ways a representative American of the better class. His successes were won by honesty and industry, and his whole course was that of the public spirited citizen whose motto is, "to live and let live."

Born in the State of New York, September

20, 1848, John D. Ketcham died at Dwight, May 12, 1893, and his mortal remains were buried in Oaklawn cemetery. Doubly orphaned when he was about two years old, he remained near his birth place in New York until, in his ninth year, he came to Dwight, where as a mere lad he found employment with J. B. Parsons in the coal and ice business. Eventually he became Mr. Parson's partner, and later bought him out, continuing the business until 1891, when he disposed of it and retired from active life. Such education as he was able to obtain he acquired in the common schools. For many years he was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he was a Republican, and is remembered as having taken a deep and abiding interest in the progress and prosperity of the community—as a man ready at all times to aid to the extent of his ability any measure which, in his opinion, promised to benefit any considerable class of his fellow citizens.

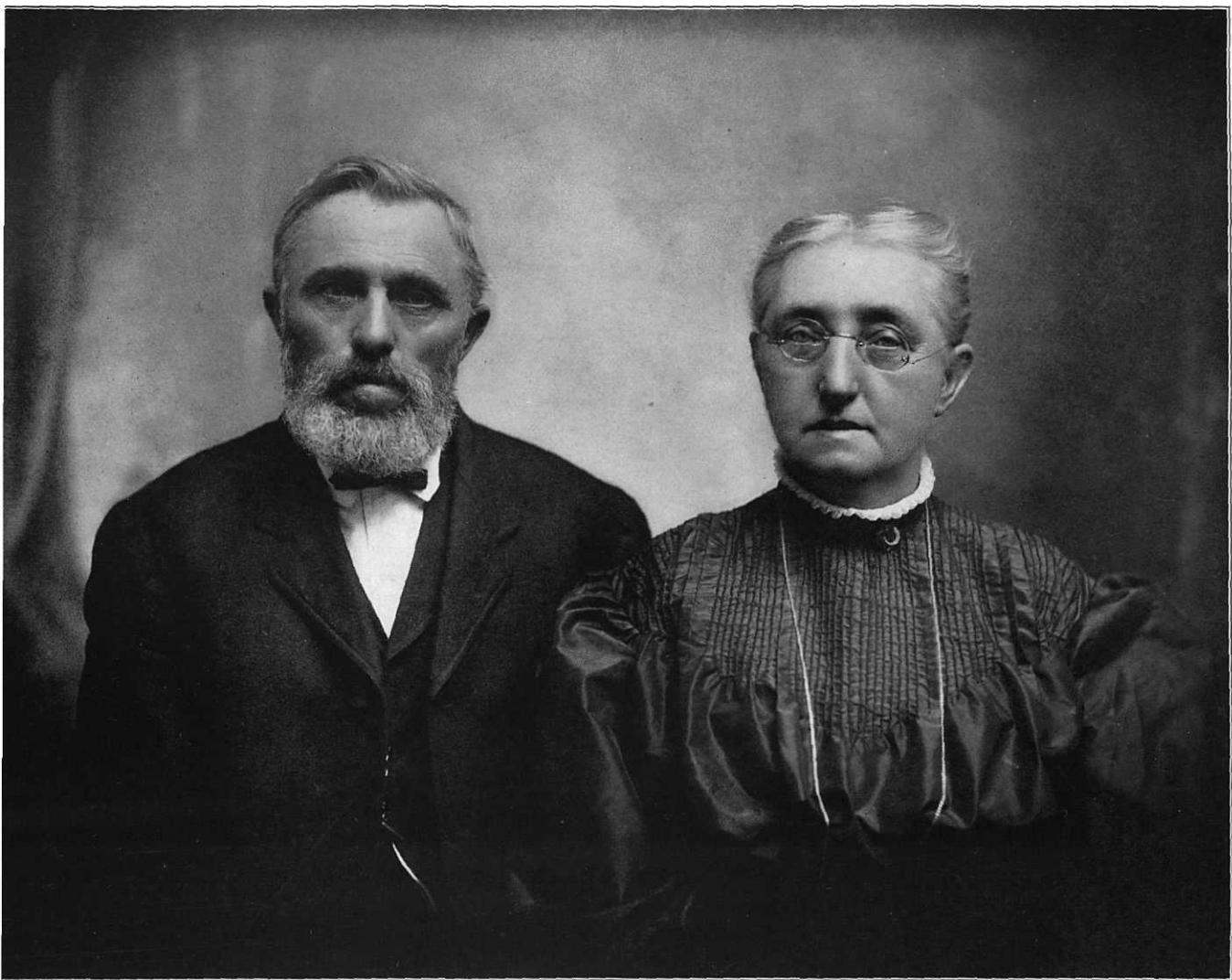
Mr. Ketcham married Miss Lizzie Johnston, December 24, 1873. Miss Johnston was born in Sauk County, Wis., November 15, 1849, a daughter of Perry T. and Ellen (Lewis) Johnston. Her grandparents in the paternal line were William and Eliza Johnston and her grandfather on the maternal side Abram Lewis. Her father was born in Wisconsin, and her mother in New York. The former died in his native State when Mrs. Ketcham was quite young. Mrs. Johnston married Richard Roe, and when Mrs. Ketcham was about twelve years old she moved to Dwight, where she died in 1899.

John D. and Lizzie (Johnston) Ketcham had the following named children: James B., who was born February 15, 1875, fills the office of night policeman at Dwight. Gertrude May, born September 10, 1876, is Mrs. Louis Barrett, of Louisville, Ky. Grace E., who was born September 28, 1881, is her mother's assistant in the management of the Ketcham boarding house, which was established in 1882 and has come to be recognized as one of the institutions of Dwight. James B. Ketcham, above mentioned, married Mary Snyder and they have two children—Gertrude Hazel and Helen Geraldine.

KIMBALL, Ira, (deceased).—A member of the Kimball family—who were important factors in New England history dating from the coming of the Puritans—Ira Kimball was born at Buxton, York County, Maine, March 8, 1834, the son of Nathan and Abigail (File or Fille) Kimball, the former also a native of Buxton and a farmer by occupation. The grandfather of Ira Kimball—Daniel Kimball by name—resided for a time at Marblehead, Mass., where the American ancestor of the family (also named Daniel) had settled on coming from England in 1630, being one of



Kimball Coat of Arms



MR. AND MRS. PETER STERREBERG

the early Puritans and becoming the forefather of many families of that name now residents in different parts of the United States. Daniel Kimball, of the later period, removed from Marblehead, Mass., to Buxton, York County, Maine, settling in the wilderness among the Indians and wild animals of the pine woods, and there hewed out a homestead and became the founder of one of the pioneer families of that region. He was the same Daniel Kimball who, at the age of more than eighty years, on entering his barn in the early dawn one winter morning, found himself confronted by a large panther, which he killed with a pitchfork.

Ira Kimball was educated in the public schools, with one year at Gorham Academy, Maine, after which, at the age of eighteen years, he went to Providence, R. I., and there spent two years as an apprentice learning the carpenter's trade, meanwhile paying his father for his time until he reached his majority. After spending some years working at his trade at Providence, on June 18, 1856, he was married at Plainfield, Conn., to Lucy Maria Phillips, who was born at Stonington, Conn., April 30, 1832, also of Pilgrim stock, her ancestry dating back to the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers on the Mayflower. After his marriage, Mr. Kimball, with his wife, returned to the paternal home in Maine, which he bought, but two years later sold to an older brother and, removing to Springfield, Mass., worked there in the United States Arsenal during the period of the Civil War. Then moving to Montgomery County, Ill., he spent sometime there farming, later moved to Peoria County and thence, in 1882, to Livingston County, where he was the owner of a farm upon which he lived for several years. His next change of location was on his removal to South Dakota, where he had taken up a homestead before removing to Livingston County. Leaving South Dakota in 1894 he finally moved to St. Clair County, Mo., where he died on Dec. 15, 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimball were the parents of five children, namely: Charles B., born May 5, 1857; Nellie L., born August 4, 1859, and who is now the wife of Marion Gallup, of Livingston County, Ill.; Ella M., born Nov. 19, 1861; Annie O., born August 9, 1866, and Ira H., born March 28, 1871.

Mr. Kimball was a Democrat in political views and, while a resident of South Dakota, was nominated as a candidate on the Independent ticket for Representative in the State Legislature from Douglas County, that State, but was defeated, the County being strongly Republican. During the Civil War he volunteered under one of President Lincoln's calls for volunteers, but was rejected on account of his small stature. Although never a member of any church, he enjoyed a high reputation for veracity, honesty and conscientiousness of character in his dealings with his fellow-men, and was a sturdy advocate of temperance in all things.

KING, Benjamin Matthew.—That Illinois is one of the most prosperous States in the Union is

abundantly evidenced by the prosperity of the many large farms scattered throughout its length and breadth, well stocked and handsomely provided with beautiful homes and substantial barns. One of the most influential of these farmers of Livingston County is Benjamin Matthew King, on Section 33, Indian Grove Township. He was born in Hamilton, Canada, June 29, 1851, a son of James and Mrs. Lucy (Godd) Ketteringham King, natives of Kent, England. James King was born in 1817. Leaving England he lived for a time in Hamilton, Canada, but left in the fall of 1851 for New York, from whence he and his family proceeded to Buffalo. Mrs. King's aunt was a housekeeper for Queen Victoria at Buckingham palace. As Mrs. King and her six sisters grew to maturity they were taken to their aunt who carefully trained them. James King was one of a family of four children.

After a short time spent at Buffalo, the little family came on to Chicago, locating on Blue Island Avenue, then a wild tract. Their nearest neighbors were two miles away. One winter the canal overflowed its banks and Mr. King, who was in a dairy business, had to remove his stock to a safe place. He selected a distillery on Prairie Avenue between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-third Streets. Here they became the neighbors of Dr. Cheeney, the warm personal friend of President Lincoln. In time Mr. King branched out and became what was then called a drover. He bought and sold cattle, in this line doing an extensive business. He located at Loda, Iroquois County, Ill., and bought direct from the farmers, fattening the cattle and hogs with distillery waste and chopped hay. His annual shipments averaged from 900 to 1200 head. The last winter he was at Loda he fed and sold 1200 head of steers, but in 1867 he retired to Fairbury, and formed a partnership in the lumber business with a Mr. Bullard under the style of King & Bullard, on the land now occupied by the City Park on Main Street. Finally he traded his interest for the James Cook farm near Fairbury, where he engaged in farming for some time, but his restless spirit could not remain satisfied, and he traded off his farm for the lumber yard and conducted what was then known as The Red Office Lumber Yard. Again tiring of the lumber business, he sold it to Jacob Van Toble and bought 240 acres of land on Section 33, Indian Grove Township, which was the first farm settled in Livingston County by Major Darnell when he entered the land in November, 1829. This farm is of historical interest as it was the first one entered in the county, and on it was born the first white child in Livingston. He was Nathan Darnell, now deceased. On this farm the first postoffice was opened, the building which contained the first blacksmith's forge is still standing, and the whole place is full of memories of pioneer days. Major Darnell was Postmaster, village blacksmith and farmer. Philip Hopper was the mail carrier, his route lying between Lexington and Ottawa.

The children born to James King and wife were as follows: George, a contractor in wharf-build-

ing and pile-driving of Seattle, Wash.; James, a gold and silver mine operator in Colorado; Maria, wife of A. F. Pogue, of Crawfordsville, Ind.; Lucy, married T. W. Duffy of Denver, Colo., but is now deceased; Mary, who lives with Benjamin M. King; Charles and Benjamin M. James King lived to see his choice of a home fully justified and rejoiced in the development of the "Corn Belt." Here he died on his homestead farm, on November 1, 1888, advanced in years. He was a typical Englishman, but was also proud of his adopted country. In politics he was a Democrat, but never could be induced to accept office although it was often tendered him. He was enthusiastic in whatever he undertook, and was very successful in all his ventures. Few men were more devoted Masons; he passed all the degrees of the order, was a Knight Templar and thoroughly believed in, and lived up to the highest teachings of that fraternity. Public-spirited, he was ever ready to lend his aid to whatever promised to be of benefit to the community at large, and contributed largely to private charities. Possessing a cheerful disposition, he never allowed himself to be discouraged, but was ever hopeful of good results and often cheered his neighbors in dark moments. Few men were so widely known or so universally mourned as he.

Benjamin Matthew King is a well known person in the history of Livingston County. He can well remember tending cattle with his brother Charles on the prairie where now teems the life of the second city in the United States. His education was obtained in Chicago in a school house on Michigan Avenue between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Streets, and in Fairbury. In the latter place his teacher was Smith Olney. After completing his education, he began working on the farm, caring for the stock, and thus continued until about twenty. This was in 1872, and in that year he went to Toronto, Canada, to attend school. He entered the British America Business College, from which he was graduated in the commercial course in the Class of 1873. He had also learned the trade of tinner and heater, on his own volition.

Mr. King now owns the homestead of 240 acres and has devoted his life to farming and stock-raising. This property has had but four owners; Major Darnell, who transferred it to Caleb Patton, the latter in turn transferring it to James King. For years Mr. King was the leading stockman of the county, and for some years made a specialty of hogs, his product commanding the highest market prices. Since 1904 Mr. King has lived partially retired, although he oversees everything, but has a man to do the actual work. His property is one of the most valuable farms in Livingston County, and he is justly proud of it.

In September, 1877, Mr. King was married to Miss Lillie Vincent, born in Pekin, Ill., daughter of Timothy Vincent, a pioneer and prominent man of Pekin. Mr. and Mrs. King have children as follows: Clara, who married Bert W. Sanders, scenic photographer for the Wabash Railroad, residing at St. Louis, and they have one child, Elouise; Warren, deceased; Edward and

Elizabeth, at home; George H., a ranchman of Livingston, Mont., owning a big ranch, and Emma. All were given excellent educations and were graduated from the State University at Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. King is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and belongs to the lodge at Fairbury, Tarbolton Lodge 351 A. F. & A. M., Chenoa Council No. 75; Fairbury Chapter R. A. M. No. 99; the St. Paul No. 34 Commandery, Fairbury, and is a Mystic Shriner of the Mohammed Temple of Peoria. In politics he has always been independent, preferring to vote for the best man than to tie himself down to any particular party. He is very domestic and a lover of home and family. As a business man he is thorough in his undertakings, is frank and open, kind to his employes and is a man of strict integrity, broad-minded and liberal in his views and charities, and is thoroughly representative of the highest and best interests of Livingston County.

KING, Daniel B., a thorough and substantial farmer of Rook's Creek Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a resident of the county for more than forty years, as well as one of the most highly esteemed men of his locality, was born in White Oak Township, McLean County, Ill., May 17, 1860. He is a son of Christian R. and Mary (Becker) King, natives of Germany, the birth of the father having occurred in Baden, December 23, 1819. He came to the United States in 1847, first locating in Pennsylvania. In 1852 he moved to Dry Grove Township, McLean County, Ill., where his father, a German by nativity, was among the early settlers. Later, Christian R. King lived in White Oak Township, spending, altogether, thirteen years in McLean County. In 1865 he changed his location to Nebraska Township, Livingston County, where he carried on farming during the remainder of his active life, dying February 16, 1904. His worthy widow still survives, at the age of seventy-eight years. Their family consisted of twelve children of whom ten are living. The father was a member of the Mennonite church, to which the mother also belongs. Both were always earnest and active in the work of the church. In politics, Christian R. King was a Democrat, and held the office of School Director for a number of years.

Daniel B. King was brought up on the home farm, and in boyhood availed himself of the advantages of the common schools of McLean County. Since reaching years of maturity he has always been engaged in farming, and is the owner of 120 acres of land in Rook's Creek Township, Livingston County, besides having an entire section in Polk County, Minn. In connection with his general farming operations, he devotes considerable attention to stock-raising, and his labors have been attended by satisfactory results. On January 15, 1884, Mr. King was united in marriage with Lucy A. King, born in White Oak Township, McLean County, Ill., July 8, 1864, and a daughter of Peter and Margaret (Holder) King. Her father, a farmer by oc-



C. M. Terry

cupation, was born in McLean County, Ill., February 6, 1838, and her mother in Ohio, on February 8, 1838. The former died October 28, 1905, the latter having passed away June 12, 1905. They had eight children, six of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. King have four children, as follows: Jesse A., a farmer, born May 19, 1885; Lulu M., born June 25, 1888; Etta A., born November 9, 1891; and Verna E., born May 1, 1894. The first three were educated in the public schools.

In politics Mr. King has always been a supporter of the Republican party. He and his family are members of the Mennonite church.

KINSEY, Isaac W., one of the enterprising and industrious agriculturists of Long Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., whose excellent farm is situated in Section 10, has for many years been one of the foremost advocates of educational improvement in his township. He was born July 16, 1854, in Clinton County, Ohio, a son of Absalom and Elizabeth (Ellis) Kinsey, natives of that county, where they were married. In October, 1854, Absalom Kinsey and his wife traveled overland to Marshall County, Ill., where they rented land, residing there until 1864, in which year the family came to Livingston County and settled in Long Point Township, where the father died December 23, 1872. They were earnest, honest, quiet people, and reared a family that was a credit to them and to the community. Their children were: Nathan, who served in an Illinois Volunteer Regiment during the Civil War and died May 24, 1897, in LaSalle, Ill.; Ellis, deceased; Kate, who was the wife of Albert King, both now being deceased; Malinda, the wife of James G. Merrill, of Champaign, Ill.; and Isaac W.

Isaac W. Kinsey was brought to Illinois as an infant, and his early schooldays were spent in LaSalle. In 1864 he accompanied his parents to Long Point Township, where he finished his schooling, and remained at home until the death of his father, in 1872, when he went to work on a farm by the month. On December 25, 1876, he was united in marriage with Charlotte Carlton, who was born in Long Point Township, March 3, 1855, daughter of Frederick and Sarah (Windsor) Carlton. Mrs. Kinsey had previously been married in 1870, to Fred Tabot, by whom she had one child—Clarence, born August 2, 1872, who died October 7, 1902. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey located on property in Section 10, Long Point Township, remaining thereon for two years, but in 1878 rented a farm, and for eighteen years Mr. Kinsey was engaged in operating a threshing machine throughout the county. In 1896 the family returned to the farm in Section 10, and here they have since continued to reside. In addition to the eighty-acre tract which they own, they also rent two properties of 160 acres each, and raise fine crops and keep a high grade of live stock. Mr. Kinsey is regarded as an authority on agricultural matters in his community, and has given much attention to his farming duties, but

has not allowed them to interfere with his work in the cause of education. For twelve years he has been school director of his district and it has been mainly through his earnest, untiring efforts that Long Point Township has such an excellent school system. In political matters he has always been a Republican as to State and national affairs. Socially, he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 1842, of Long Point, and his wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors. Both are consistent members of the Christian Church. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey, namely: Guy L., born December 24, 1878, at home; Ina Belle, born June 6, 1888, who died February 9, 1889; and Cecil Carlton, born July 3, 1891, all in Long Point Township.

KIPP, Eliakim B., well known in Pontiac, Ill., in connection with his flourishing trade in lumber and various lines of building material, was born in Greene County, N. Y., on November 6, 1847, a son of Charles A. and Eliza A. Kipp, natives of New York State. His father, who was among the early settlers of Illinois, went to California in 1849, remaining there eighteen years. On returning to Illinois at the end of that period, he located at Tonica, afterwards moving to Minonk, Woodford County, and died while on a visit from that place to his old home in New York State. He and his wife were the parents of five children, two of whom are deceased.

The subject of this biographical record came to Illinois in 1862, and in early youth pursued a course of study in the University of Illinois, at Champaign, subsequently making his home at Tonica. Thence he moved to Minonk, and after working awhile in a lumber yard there, went to Elliott, Ia., where he opened a hardware store, soon adding a stock of lumber and operating a grain elevator. This he continued for thirteen years, moving thence to Kenosha, Wis., and there engaging in the wholesale and retail lumber trade. In 1901 he went to Chicago, and spent a year in the real-estate business, following which he changed his location to Pontiac, buying out the lumber interests of J. A. Wilson, at the corner of Howard and Fountain Streets, the business having been started by Whitbeck & Wilson, and conducted successively by J. A. Mills, W. L. Craig & Co., and Mr. Kipp's predecessor. Since Mr. Kipp took possession of the yards he has increased the stock considerably, adding several new sheds. The business covers about half a block, on which are two sheds measuring 50 by 120 feet each; one 40 by 120 feet; one 20 by 100 feet; and two others, each of which is 20 by 72 feet in dimensions. Besides lumber, Mr. Kipp deals in coal, sewer-pipes, lime, cement, plaster and all kinds of building material, his trade extending beyond the city for quite a distance in every direction.

On September 14, 1876, Mr. Kipp was united in marriage with Laura S. Simpson, born in Washburn, Ill., a daughter of Harrison H. and Maria Simpson, both old residents of Woodford County, their former home being in Ohio. Mrs. Simpson

is still living, at the age of ninety-four years. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kipp, namely: Harrison H. who was educated in Northwestern University and now assists his father in business, and Bernice, a graduate of the School of Oratory of the same institution, with the Class of 1903. Mrs. Kipp died July 30, 1902. Together with his son and daughter, Mr. Kipp occupies a fine residence on Grove Street in Pontiac, purchased by him in 1907.

In politics, Mr. Kipp is a Democrat, and fraternally is affiliated with the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while his lamented wife was a communicant of the Congregational Church of Evanston, Ill.

KOEHLER, Johannes (deceased).—The industrious and well directed life of Johannes Koehler made its impress upon the growth of Livingston County for about thirty-six years, and during that time he built up a large trade as a baker in Dwight, where his death occurred April 22, 1902, at the age of sixty-two years. Mr. Koehler was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, January 1, 1840, a son of Casper and Jeannette Koehler, the former of whom died when his son was a small boy. The mother subsequently married again, her second husband being Cooper Ash, of Morris, Ill., and they came to Dwight, where they spent the remainder of their lives, her death occurring at the home of remainder of their lives, her death occurring at the home of Mrs. John Koehler, October 3, 1902. Mrs. Johannes Koehler, October 3, 1902, Mr. Ash having passed away February 24, 1895.

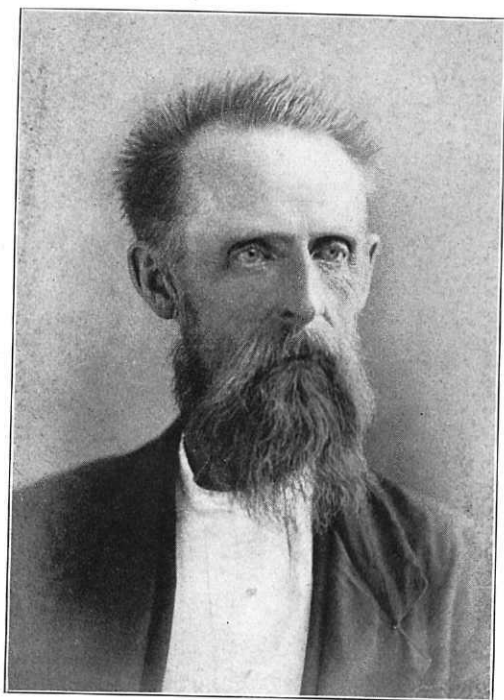
Johannes Koehler received a practical education in the Fatherland, and early became impressed with the superior advantages awaiting an ambitious youth on this side of the Atlantic. He therefore joined his mother in Dwight in 1866, a fellow-voyager on the Atlantic being Lena Zimmer, who was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, December 9, 1846, and whom he later married. Henry and Catherine (Stanger) Zimmer, the parents of Mrs. Koehler, were born in Germany in 1814 and September 19, 1816, respectively, the former dying in his native land in 1862, while his wife surviving him, now lives with her daughter. Mrs. Koehler. After locating in Dwight, Mr. Koehler worked at his trade as an employe until 1869, in which year he established a business of his own, conducting the same with increasing success until disposing of it in September, 1880. Thrifty and economical, and assisted by his equally ambitious wife, he amassed a comfortable competence through honorable toil; and, upon retiring from active life, built a large frame house in Dwight, now owned and occupied by his widow, and also bought an adjoining house and lot, which is rented out.

Mr. and Mrs. Koehler were not blessed with children, but they opened their hearts and home

to Mrs. Koehler's nephew, John L., who was born October 30, 1874, and whom they sent to school and gave a fine medical and surgical training. Subsequently this nephew went to San Antonio, Texas, where he was taken ill and died in a hospital February 15, 1902, three months before the death of Mr. Koehler. Mrs. Koehler is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, to which faith Mr. Koehler adhered throughout life.

KUHN, LeRoy P., M. D.—Surgery has made greater progress in the last twenty years than it did in the twenty centuries prior to the beginning of the nineteenth century, when Boyer of Paris wrote a great work declaring it had attained highest perfection. From 1800 to 1890 the strides made were marvelous, but since then no mere words will describe the value of the scientific discoveries. No physician and surgeon of today can rest content with what he imbibed from his preceptor, or learned during long years in college or hospital or from practical experience. No matter how long he has been in active practice, there is always something new and startling given to the medical world with which he must become familiar, so that the thoroughly competent physician and surgeon is practically a student all his life, constantly studying and reading and putting into practice those truths which he learns of from others or discovers for himself. For this reason, if for no other, the life of the physician and surgeon is a hard one, filled with many anxieties and constant striving after the best and deepest in thought and action, as well as triumphs of marvelous skill and knowledge.

Among the studious and successful physicians and surgeons of Fairbury, Livingston County, Dr. LeRoy P. Kuhn occupies a very enviable position in the medical profession. He was born at Wellsville, Mo., August 27, 1879, a son of Philip and Bertha (Cutler) Kuhn. Always studious, Dr. Kuhn first went to school at Centralia, Kan., and after the family settled at Baldwin, the same State, he attended High School there, and July 5, 1898, entered Baker Academy, from which he was graduated in the Class of 1900. In the meanwhile he had begun the study of medicine, and after serving as externe in the Chicago Baptist Hospital, Dr. Kuhn became a student in the Medical Department of the University of Illinois. In 1901 he accompanied a patient to Germany, and took advantage of the opportunity thus presented to attend surgical clinics in the City Hospital at Berlin. After stopping for a short time at Dresden, Marienbad, and Carlsbad, he returned to America in August, that same year, and in the succeeding fall entered the Medical Department of the University of Illinois, where he completed a four years' course, graduating in the Class of 1905. In the summer of that year he entered a sanatorium at Palmyra, Jefferson County, Wis., where he had a year of very valuable experience among the various patients there. In 1906 he located at Fairbury, and won almost instant recognition.



E. B. STEVENS



MRS. E. B. STEVENS

He is a member of the City Board of Health, and is also Township Physician. He belongs to the Livingston County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association. He is examining physician at Fairbury for the Modern Woodmen of America, The Court of Honor, Royal Neighbors, as well as examiner for several life insurance companies. Dr. Kuhn belongs to the fraternal orders above mentioned, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Kuhn is identified with the Loyanz Club and is secretary of the Art Club, and she and Dr. Kuhn are members and active supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is devoted to his profession, closely following every discovery and improvement. His surgical instruments are the exponents of the latest models in their several lines. He is prompt in his attention to all calls and ready to respond day or night, using his motor whenever practicable, although he allows nothing to stand in the way of reaching his patients.

Dr. Kuhn was married September 9, 1905, to Miss Bessie M. Patterson, who was born in Chicago, a daughter of the late Darius Patterson, who was for many years employed in a responsible position by the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. Mr. Patterson died in 1906, and his wife in 1904.

The family history of Dr. Kuhn is as follows: His father, Philip Kuhn, was of German ancestry, but was born in Pennsylvania, where his progenitors had settled with the German colony in pre-Revolutionary days. His mother, of English extraction, was able to trace her lineage to men and women noble in their station in life, as well as in their personal character. Philip Kuhn removed from Pennsylvania to Shelby County, Ohio, while yet a young man, and there he met and married his wife, about 1859. He was born August 9, 1836, and she, December 28, 1841, so they were about twenty-three and eighteen years old, respectively, at the time of their marriage. In 1861 Philip Kuhn enlisted as a musician in the One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil War. He was made prisoner and confined for thirteen months in the Confederate Military Prison at Camp Ford, Texas. When he was exchanged he rejoined his regiment, and served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. Returning to Ohio he resumed farming near Plymouth, but April 1, 1868, he moved to Wellsville, Mo., and there bought a farm. In 1880 he took up his residence at Centralia, Kan., but in 1894 sold his property there and went to Baldwin, Kan., in order to give his children the advantage of Baker University. Establishing his family in a delightful home, he worked hard to maintain it, dying June 29, 1899. He was a lover of home and was very domestic in his habits. One of his most cherished ambitions was to properly educate his children. His whole family was closely identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he was always an active

and helpful member. Politically he was a Republican, and was enthusiastic in his admiration of the Grand Army of the Republic. His love of martial music never weakened or wavered, and in political campaigns and on Decoration Day he and his four sons headed parades, furnishing inspiring music to those in line of march. As a matter of interest it may here be mentioned that, under his father's instruction, Dr. Kuhn became very expert in playing the snare drum. Mrs. Kuhn, the mother, who is still living, at Baldwin, Kan., was the mother of the following children: Frank E., who was born in Plymouth, Ohio, June 21, 1861, was a contractor and builder at Wichita, Kan., and died there of typhoid fever, October 16, 1887; Ada, born October 3, 1862, at Plymouth, Ohio, is Assistant Principal of Public Schools at Glencoe, Cook County, Ill.; Zillah, born in Plymouth, April 5, 1866, married, March 10, 1887, the Rev. J. E. Vernon, now pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Seneca, Kan.; Nettie, born September 21, 1868, died at Wichita, Kan., September 28, 1887; Charles R., born December 20, 1870, is manager of a hotel in Kansas City, Mo.; Emma F., born at Wellsville, Mo., June 11, 1872, is a teacher in the public school at Flagstaff, Ariz.; Burton S., born at Wellsville, Mo., March 31, 1874, is farming near Winona, Kan.; Leona, born January 3, 1876, at Wellsville, Mo., is a high school teacher at Kansas City, Mo.; Clyde L., born at Wellsville, Mo., August 8, 1877, was graduated from the Boston Theological Seminary with the Class of 1908; Dr. Kuhn, was born August 27, 1879; Orta Edward, born in Centralia, Kan., October 6, 1882, is Principal of the high school at Tucson, Pima County, Ariz.

The oft-repeated lesson that genius, virtues, learning, accomplishments, love of family, admiration by the public, appreciation of the needs of the community and anxious desire to benefit humanity, must all result in noble, inspired characters and ultimate success, is plainly taught in the lives of the children of Philip and Bertha Kuhn, who are all representative and responsible men and women in the several localities in which they are to be found, and the good, old German name of Kuhn is connected with the best interests and highest professions of the country.

KURTENBACH, Peter, for twenty-two years the owner and operator of one of the desirable farms in Livingston County, Ill., was born in LaSalle County, Ill., in March, 1855. He is a son of John and Mary (Kline) Kurtenbach, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1858, continuing to Illinois and settling in LaSalle County, where the father followed farming. He and his wife had one other child besides the subject of this sketch. His first wife having died, John Kurtenbach married a second time, five children resulting from the latter marriage.

Peter Kurtenbach was reared on the paternal farm in LaSalle County, and has followed farming very successfully in Livingston County since 1886. In 1873 he was united in the bonds of

matrimony with Mary E. Oliver, who was born in Livingston County, and they became the parents of four sons and five daughters. Two of the sons are conducting separate farms belonging to their father. In politics, Peter Kurtenbach is a supporter of the Democratic party, and his religious faith is that of the Catholic Church. He has rendered good public service in the office of School Director of his township for thirteen years.

LANGE, Edwin L.—Nothing is impossible to an ambitious, energetic, thrifty young man, provided he does not allow small beginnings to discourage him, but steadily works ahead towards the desired goal. Edwin L. Lange is an example of this truism, for he has carved out his fortune for himself, and naturally is proud of the results he has attained. He was born in La Salle County, Ill., July 14, 1871, a son of Theodore and Minnie (Vieth) Lange, both natives of Frankfurt-on-the-Rhine, Germany. The mother came to America with her parents, settling in La Salle County, where she was married. They made their home in La Salle County until about 1879, when Mr. Lange bought eighty acres in Cropsey Township, McLean County, and began to make a permanent home for his family, but death claimed him in 1881. Five children were born of this marriage: Edwin; Ernest, married Emma Brucker, a daughter of Gottlieb Brucker, now deceased, and is a farmer in Fayette Township; Albert, married a granddaughter of Gottlieb Brucker and is one of the flourishing farmers of Ford County, Ill.; Paul, married Miss Jennie Humphrey and is a farmer in Cropsey Township, McLean County; Annie married John Brucker, an extensive farmer of Belle Prairie Township. After the death of Mr. Lange, Mrs. Lange married August Seifert and they have three children: Joseph, Minnie and Arthur, all at home, residing on the homestead.

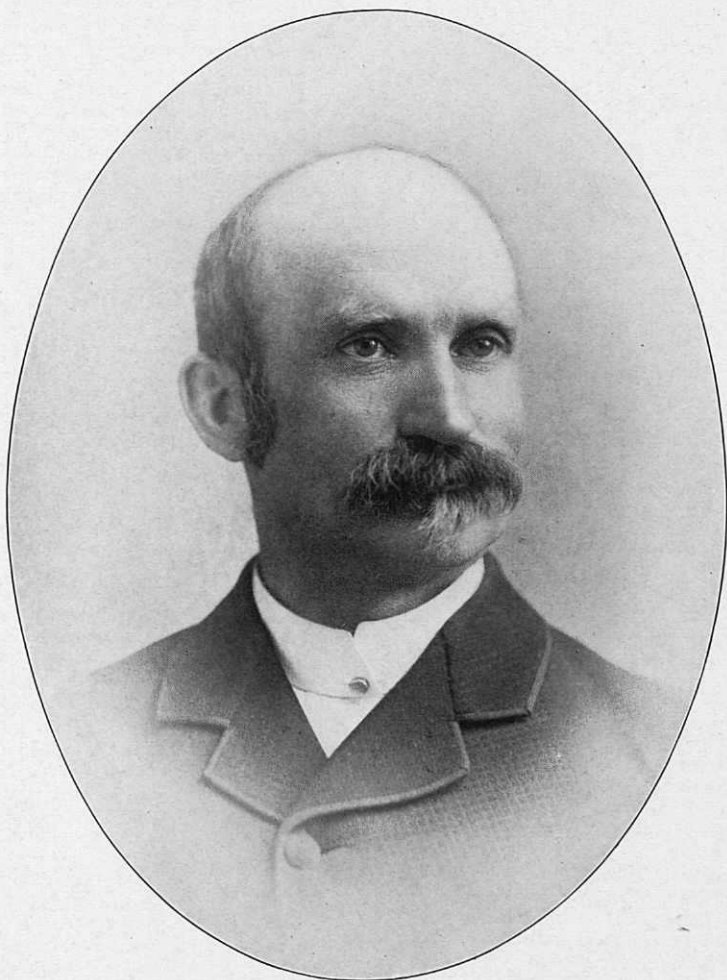
Edwin L. Lange was but a lad when his parents moved from the vicinity of Grand Ridge, in La Salle County, where his birth occurred, to McLean County, and he commenced school in the latter County. The Miller Schoolhouse in which he learned to read and write is still standing and it is in Anchor Township. He began farming as soon as he was big enough to grasp the plow handles, continuing at home until twenty-one, although for three years he had worked rented land near the homestead and was successful.

On March 14, 1895, Mr. Lange married Mary Ulfers, daughter of John Ulfers, now deceased, who was born in Tazewell County, Ill., December 30, 1872. Her father was one of the most extensive farmers of Avoca Township. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lange went to live in their new home in Benton County, Ind., where he had secured 160 acres of land in conjunction with his brother, Ernest, but subsequently purchased his brother's interest. Out of this he made a fine farm, but met with a severe loss when his barn was destroyed by lightning. Here

he remained until 1902, when he sold his farm and bought 130 acres on Section 24, Eppards Point Township, and that year took possession of the new farm. On the farm in Indiana one of the two sons was born:—Orville, born in Benton County, Ind., April 7, 1896. The second son, Harley, was born in Eppards Point Township, September 16, 1902. Mr. Lange has devoted his life to farming and stock-raising and keeps the best grade of stock, his favorite breed of horses being the Norman. He has made a successful work of his farming, and for about twenty-one years has been shelling corn, and in 1902 added a thresher in company, and now has one of the largest makes of engines and a complete up-to-date threshing outfit, with an 18-horse power engine. Being a natural mechanic, he takes pleasure in his machinery and also in his automobile 20-horse power, which he finds very convenient for use about the farm, although he is fond of horses, too. While a good Republican, he has always steadily refused political honors, but is ready to advance every improvement he thinks will prove of benefit to the community. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A. of Fairbury, and takes an active part in each order. Both he and his wife are Methodists and contribute liberally toward the support of their church. Mr. Lange is a Director in the Champlain Farmers' Grain Company.

LAWLESS, Patrick, in his day a well known farmer of Livingston County, Ill., who, through industry, perseverance and economy, accumulated large landed properties in the vicinity of the village of Chatsworth, was born in County Meath, Ireland, and in company with his mother and his brother William, came to the United States shortly after attaining his majority. They lived at Camp Grove, Marshall County, Ill., a number of years, and for a considerable period, he and his brother were partners, this connection lasting until his marriage to Catherine O'Neill, also a native of Ireland, who had been in this country some time.

He acquired a farm in Marshall County, and in course of time moved to Livingston County, locating in Germanville Township, where his son, Patrick, Jr., was born August 20, 1872. When the latter was six months old, the subject of this sketch returned to the same farm in Marshall County which he had continued to own. About ten years later, Patrick moved again to Livingston County, settling on a place two miles east of Chatsworth, known as the "Beet Farm," his other son William, occupying the Marshall County property. This was soon sold, however, and William came into possession of a farm in Germanville Township, as a gift from his father. Patrick Lawless lived on the "Beet Farm" until Patrick, Jr., was eighteen years old. About that time he bought the present homestead near the site of the beet-sugar factory, and planted it in wheat. This farm, which adjoins Chatsworth, consisted of 144 acres, formerly owned by a Mr. Remsburg, who erected the house now standing about where the beet-sugar factory stood,



JAMES H. TAGGART

which had disappeared. Here Patrick Lawless died, his widow being now a resident of the village of Chatsworth, living with her daughter, Mrs. John C. Corbett. Their family numbered six daughters and two sons who reached years of maturity, one son having died in childhood. Their names are as follows: William, who lives in Charlotte Township, a mile north of Chatsworth; Mary (Mrs. Andrew Kane), of Peoria, Ill.; Lizzie (Mrs. W. F. Harney), of Pontiac, Ill.; Maggie (Mrs. John Cooney), of Charlotte, Ill.; Kate (Mrs. James McGuire), of the same place; Bertha, who married Thomas Lawless, an attorney in Chicago, and Jennie (Mrs. J. C. Corbett).

Patrick Lawless, Jr., farmed the old "Beet Farm" when eighteen years old, and then, after spending two years with his father, returned to it in 1893, and operated it until 1897. He received 240 acres from the paternal estate, and added more until that farm comprised 360 acres. In 1907 he bought from his mother the old home at Chatsworth. The homestead place has two sets of buildings. Besides his general farming operations, Patrick, Jr., has devoted his attention to breeding draft horses, producing some excellent specimens. He has sold the highest priced horses ever disposed of in his locality, often keeping as many as thirty high-bred animals. He has laid a great deal of tiling, and made other extensive improvements. The original cost of the old place was \$27 per acre, for which he paid \$55 per acre. The latter is now worth from \$130 to \$150 per acre.

Patrick Lawless, Jr., was married at twenty-three years of age to Ella Ryan, who died between four and five years after her marriage, leaving three children, namely: Patricus, James and Ella. For his second wife, he married Katie Kerrens, daughter of Thomas Kerrens, formerly a farmer in Charlotte Township, where Mrs. Lawless was born. Two children have resulted from this union, Mary and Catherine.

The father of these five children is a Democrat, politically, and has served as School Director, although he has not taken an active part in politics. In religious faith, he is a Catholic, his parents having been among the number who organized the Catholic Church of the township, of which they were always earnest supporters.

LAWRENCE, Joseph T., a well known and well-to-do farmer, of Livingston County, Ill., was born on the farm which he now owns and operates in Pontiac Township, November 9, 1861, a son of Richard and Minerva Wise (Johnson) Lawrence, the latter born in Licking County, Ohio, in 1830. Their family history is given elsewhere in this connection. Richard Lawrence was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1826, became a wagon-maker by trade, and, while living in Indiana, made a wagon, with which his journey to the new home in Livingston County, Ill., was accomplished. It is now in the possession of the subject of this sketch, and still in a good state of preservation. The father brought

his house with him from Indiana to this township in the fall of 1853, and on May 22d, of the following year, settled on the place which he had purchased, a child being born to his wife two days afterward. He broke the raw prairie land and put up good buildings on it. When he first traveled through Livingston County, but four families lived along the route taken by him. He came from Warren County, Ind., where he had originally settled and where his first marriage took place. Two of his children were born there, and the birth of the others took place on the old homestead in Livingston County. The first wife was Amanda Deyo, a native of Indiana.

In early youth Joseph T. Lawrence attended the common schools, and pursued a two years' course of study in a business college in Joliet. He was reared to farm life, and has successfully followed that occupation ever since. His farm comprises eighty acres of very desirable land, and is situated a mile from the corporation limits of Pontiac. Besides general farming, he devotes considerable attention to raising stock, and has prospered in all his undertakings. Still standing on his farm are plum trees which his father brought from Virginia, during the period of the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

On March 30, 1893, Mr. Lawrence was joined in matrimony with Mary Ellen Farver, born in Wisconsin, October 9, 1859, a daughter of Reuben and Anna (Pearson) Farver, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. In Maryland, the grandfather of Mrs. Lawrence was a slaveholder. Both parents died in Wisconsin. Two children are the offspring of this union, namely, Edward, born August 6, 1894; and Mary Ellen, born October 12, 1897.

In politics, Mr. Lawrence takes an independent course. Mrs. Lawrence is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

LAWRENCE, Nelson D., an energetic, thorough and successful farmer, of Pontiac Township, Livingston County, Ill., and one of the leading men in his locality, was born in Warren County, Ind., June 26, 1850, a son of Richard and Amanda (Deyo) Lawrence, natives of Ohio and Indiana, respectively, who settled in Livingston County in 1854, taking up 160 acres of raw prairie, and also buying a tract of timberland. On this place the father lived many years, but his death occurred in Kirksville, Mo., in 1894, when he was sixty-eight years old, his remains being brought back to Livingston County, Ill., for burial. His wife passed away in 1858, aged twenty-eight years. Besides the subject of this sketch, they had two other sons who live in Kansas, William O. and Joshua. After the death of the mother, the father married again, wedding Minerva (Wise) Johnson, born in Licking County, Ohio, and this union resulted in seven children, four of whom are living. Minerva Johnson's first husband was Benjamin Johnson, of Livingston County, Ill., who died in Pontiac. She died January 3, 1903.

In politics, Richard Lawrence was a Democrat and a Greenbacker, and in religious faith was a

member of the "New Light" denomination of Christians. Nelson D. Lawrence was brought up on the home farm, his education being obtained in the common schools. He has followed farming during the whole of his mature life, and now owns 120 acres of land, situated a mile and a half from Pontiac proper, and half a mile from the corporate limits of the city. The land was broken by him, and the grubbing was the work of his hands. He bought the place in 1881, and the buildings on it are the result of his toil. Aside from general farming, he is engaged in stock-raising, and keeps good stock.

On April 9, 1885, Mr. Lawrence was married to Caroline M. McKee, of Livingston County, Ill., a daughter of James and Nancy (Starrett) McKee. The latter died in 1868, aged forty-six years. Caroline (McKee) Lawrence was born April 18, 1860. Her father was a native of Brown County, Ohio, and settled in Livingston County in 1856. He died in Pontiac in 1903, aged ninety years. Five children were the issue of their union, namely: Octa D., aged twenty-one years; James R., aged seventeen years; Alethea M., deceased at the age of nine years; an infant, deceased; and Carrie Etta, aged four years.

Politically, Mr. Lawrence has of late maintained an independent attitude. For twenty-four years he has served the public as School Director. His family are members of the Presbyterian church.

LEGG, C. E.—A simple recital of the life of Mr. Legg shows what it is within the power of man to accomplish, although he may start out in the world with no other capital than a robust constitution, a determined will and a high-school education. Practically all of Mr. Legg's life from his earliest recollections has been passed within the limits of Livingston County. It was here that he passed the years of his youth on a farm, learning valuable lessons from fields and flowers and the uneventful round of husbandry; here he gained his first knowledge of the business in which he was to reap an ultimate success; here, in boyhood, he realized that the Christian faith alone made earth a habitation of peace and happiness, and heaven a blessed assurance, on which foundation he erected the superstructure of a noble, useful and influential career.

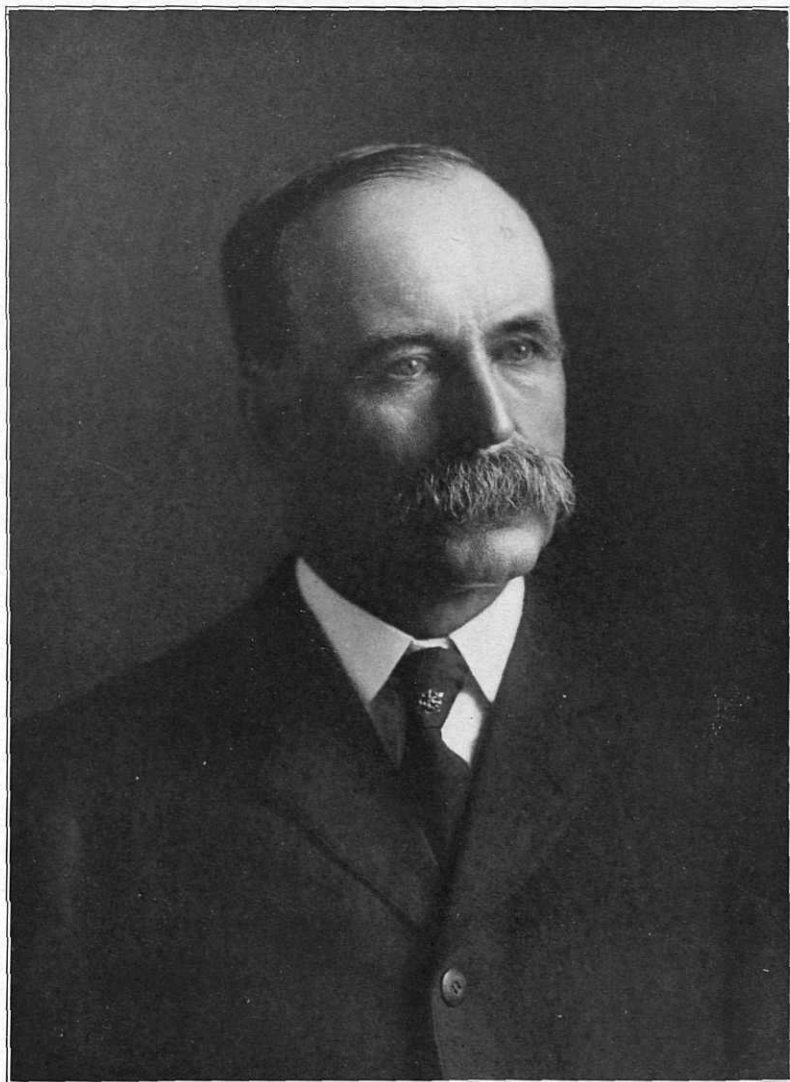
Of southern birth, born in Monroe County, W. Va., November 8, 1855, C. E. Legg was only two years of age when brought to Livingston County, Ill., by his parents Jesse and Catharine (Johnson) Legg, the family settling on a farm in Rook's Creek Township. The country schools afforded him a rudimentary education, and later he had the advantage of a course of study in Pontiac High School. Leaving school at the age of seventeen years, he turned his attention to the earning of a livelihood and, by good fortune, secured employment in a business for which his talents admirably qualified him. As a clerk in the shoe-store of D. M. Lyons at Pon-

tiac, he soon acquired a thorough knowledge of the shoe business, and proved himself so capable that in a few years he was prepared for the management of a business of his own. During 1877 he organized the firm of Legg & Voght, and engaged in the retail shoe business. The venture proved successful, but his aspirations led him out of retail work into the manufacturing industry, and in 1881 he commenced shoe-manufacturing at the Illinois State Reform School, as a member of the firm of Lyons & Legg. This firm the following year was succeeded by the firm of R. P. Smith Sons & Co., of which Mr. Legg was the resident manager and the "Company." For eight years he carried on business in that institution with noteworthy success.

The Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company, organized by Mr. Legg in 1889, now owns and operates two large shoe factories, employing nearly five hundred persons and also carrying on a jobbing business in Chicago. The annual business amounts to about \$750,000. At the outset Mr. Legg was secretary and general manager, and from the first he has been largely responsible for the success of the concern, whose present officers are C. E. Legg, President; John S. Murphy, Vice-President; A. M. Legg, Treasurer; and J. M. Holferty, Secretary. The output of the factories comprises shoes for ladies, misses and children, and the high character of the workmanship has brought about a deserved popularity for the products of the plant.

The building up of a large and important plant by no means represents the limit of Mr. Legg's activities. Scarcely a movement of importance to the well-being of Pontiac could be mentioned which has lacked his support and co-operation. As a director of the Pontiac Chautauqua Assembly he has promoted the usefulness of an institution of far reaching benefit to the people of the city and county. Philanthropic by nature, he has been prominent as a director in the Associated Charities and has never failed to lend practical aid to the destitute and unfortunate. As president of the Pontiac Loan and Building Association, he has been able to aid many deserving families desiring to own homes of their own, and thus has promoted the growth of the city in a permanent way. In addition to other interests he acts as a director in the Pontiac State Bank, the Allen Candy Company and the LaCrosse Land Company.

The marriage of Mr. Legg took place at Graymont, Ill., September 13, 1883, by which he was united with Nellie A. Gray. Two children blessed their union, Martha Helen and George A., the latter now deceased. In political views Mr. Legg is in sympathy with the principles enunciated in the platform of the Republican party, and he further believes in prohibition principles, having long been an observer of the degrading influences of the liquor traffic. For two terms he served in the City Council as an anti-license Alderman. Elected a member of the Board of Education in the city schools, he filled that place for two terms, and then for three terms



H. M. Thomas

served on the Township High School Board. Upon his rounded character religion has cast its mild and gentle radiance. For a long period he has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, and for twenty-two consecutive years has officiated as Sunday-school Superintendent. Years ago he became interested in the helpful work accomplished by the Young Men's Christian Association, and he became a member of the branch at Pontiac, of which at this writing he is President. The qualities that brought him success in the work in his home city attracted attention elsewhere, and resulted in his election as President of the Illinois Young Men's Christian Association, a high honor but one of which its recipient was eminently worthy. In spite of manifold responsibilities elsewhere, a portion of his time is now devoted to this office and he has discharged its duties with the intelligence, fidelity, tact and consecration characteristic of him in every position to which he has been called.

LIGGITT, Thomas, retired farmer, Dwight, Livingston County, Ill., is a worthy representative of quite a large class of citizens of this enterprising town who are passing within its boundaries the concluding years of lives well spent in toil and enterprise, which have brought to the county the development which has resulted in its present noteworthy advancement and prosperity.

Thomas Liggitt was born in Washington County, Pa., July 28, 1824, a son of Joshua and Rebecca (Dempster) Liggitt, natives of Maryland, where Abraham Liggitt, the paternal grandfather of Thomas, was also born. Joshua Liggitt was a farmer in Pennsylvania and died there about 1835, when his son Thomas was about eleven years old, and his widow married John Westlake and in due time died in the Keystone State. Thomas Liggitt began his active life near his early home in Pennsylvania as a farm hand at six dollars a month. He was then only a boy. He prospered fairly well in his native State, but in time got the "western fever" and, in 1854, removed to McLean County, Ill. After living near Bloomington three years, he came to Dwight and soon afterward bought 160 acres of unimproved prairie land in Nevada Township, which he broke and otherwise improved and put under cultivation. After while he bought eighty acres more, situated about a mile from his first purchase, and which was under considerable improvement. He made his home on his original farm, giving his attention to general crops and stock, until 1891, when he removed to Normal, Ill., where he found ample facilities for the education of his children which, at that time, was his chief concern in life. In 1894 he took up his residence with a daughter in Chicago and remained there until 1900, when he returned to Dwight, where he lives with another daughter, Miss Elsie Liggitt, who sometimes proudly refers to herself as her father's housekeeper.

Mr. Liggitt married Margaret Ann Thompson,

at Washington, Ohio, December 22, 1852. Mrs. Liggitt, who was a daughter of Robert and Lethy (Cross) Thompson, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio. She bore her husband children as follows: Elsie, who is mentioned above; Thomas, who is a member of his father's household; Robert, living at Buffalo, Ill.; Lilian, who is Mrs. John L. Hall, of New York City; Frederick died at Normal, Ill., in 1904, leaving a widow and four children; Charles died in 1890; Martha died in 1887; Richard C. is succeeding as a dentist at Clinton, Ill.; Fleming, of Rankin, Vermillion County, Ill., is making an enviable record as a doctor of medicine; and Myrtle married Dr. A. F. Ellers, of Oak Park, Ill.

Mr. Liggitt has been practically a lifelong Methodist and has served his church as steward and trustee. Politically he is a Democrat, and as such was elected a member of the School Board in Nevada Township.

LITCHFIELD, Edward, a well known banker, of Flanagan, Livingston County, Ill., an able financier, and a man of strong influence in connection with the public affairs of the community, was born in Macomb, McDonough County, Ill., on August 20, 1849. He is a son of John and Anna (Palmer) Litchfield, natives of England, who came to the United States in 1837, and proceeding directly to Southern Indiana, located afterwards in McDonough County, whence they moved to Marshall County in 1851. There the father died February 5, 1907, at the age of eighty-five years, the mother having passed away in the same county, when the subject of this sketch was a child. John Litchfield carried on farming extensively, being the owner of 400 acres of land. In politics he was a Democrat, and took a prominent and influential part in the public affairs of his locality, being the incumbent of several township offices, in succession, and serving as Supervisor of Bennington Township. In religious faith he and his wife were Baptists. Their family consisted of eleven children, ten of whom are still living.

Edward Litchfield was reared on his father's farm and, in early youth, attended the public schools, and the Rutland (Ill.) High School, afterwards entering Eureka College, where he graduated. Until he reached the age of thirty years, his occupation was that of a farmer and teacher, applying himself to the former occupation in summer and to teaching in the winter months for a period of eleven years. In 1883 he located in Livingston County and engaged in the banking business, organizing a bank under the name of E. Litchfield & Co., and also becoming interested in the lumber trade. He owns a farm in Marshall County, Ill., and has considerable land in Indiana, Wisconsin and Nebraska.

On June 30, 1885, Mr. Litchfield was married to Oma Trowbridge, who was born in Marshall County, Ill., a daughter of Rev. Allen H. and Sarah (Stafford) Trowbridge, natives of Indiana. Mrs. Litchfield's parents settled in Marshall County in 1851, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Four children resulted from this

union, namely: Earl and John, deceased; Edward T. and Hazel.

In politics, Mr. Litchfield is a Democrat, and has served twenty years as School Treasurer, and was President of the Village Board a number of years. For about eleven years he held the office of Supervisor of Nebraska Township, Livingston County. He is a member of Pontiac Lodge A. F. & A. M., and he and his wife and family are members of the Christian church.

LOCKER, Christian, a worthy farmer of upright character and large landed possessions, who after many years of persevering toil and honest dealing, is now resting from his labors on the fine farm which he owns in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Germany October 3, 1830. His parents were George and Leba (Reisch) Locker, also natives of Germany. He was a farmer by occupation. Both of these parents spent their entire lives in the land of their birth. They had a large family and their son Christian, as well as the other children, attended the public schools of the fatherland between the ages of seven and fourteen years. His mother died when he was fourteen years old.

In early manhood Christian Locker applied himself to farming in the old country, and in 1854 crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel, the journey consuming thirty-five days. Reaching America, he crossed to Illinois and located in Bureau County, where he worked by the month eighteen months and then rented land for eight and one-half years. After this he bought 160 acres in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, which has since been his home. For many years he was successfully engaged in general farming and raising stock, and now is living in ease and contentment, enjoying the rewards of a long life of industry and integrity, among which are the respect and confidence of his neighbors, and the good-will of all who know him. His holdings comprise 480 acres in Livingston County, one section and a quarter in Iowa, and he has property in Flanagan. He is recognized as one of the most substantial farmers of Nebraska Township.

March 27, 1854, Mr. Locker was married in his native land to Frericka Henreeta Ulitsch, a daughter of Johanicus Ulitsch, born in Germany, where her parents lived and died. Their children were six in number, namely: Herman, who married Frauka Franzler,—they reside in Flanagan and have four children; Christian, married Anna Rantschman,—they reside in George, Lyon County, Iowa, and have two girls; Henry, married Katherine Franzler, and resides in Flanagan, where he owns a big warehouse,—they have four children; Caroline, married Edward Rapp, they reside opposite Mr. Locker and have had six children, of whom four are living: Alexander, lives at home; and Mary, who married Aaron Jensen, resides with Mr. Locker and she and her husband have four sons.

In politics, Mr. Locker has been a supporter of the Republican party ever since he was able to

vote. The religious connection of the family is with the Lutheran church.

LOMMATSCH, Mealean, a wide-awake and progressive young farmer, of Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in that township on April 22, 1876, a son of Herman and Augusta (Fahlwok) Lommatsch, both natives of Saxony, Germany, where the father was born in 1835, and the mother, in 1840. The paternal grandparents, William and Gewilliana (Haas) Lommatsch, were also of German nativity. Herman Lommatsch emigrated to the United States in 1854, and from that year until 1861, made his home in Indiana, where he was engaged in cultivating the soil. In 1861, he changed his location to Eppards Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., and at a later period, moved to Pike Township, where he is at present in comfortable and contented retirement. He is the owner of 640 acres of choice farming land, thoroughly improved and in excellent condition, and has been a well-known breeder of horses, cattle and hogs for many years. He and his wife reared a family of nine children, eight of whom are living. Mealean Lommatsch grew to manhood on the paternal farm, attending the district schools of the neighborhood in early youth. Since reaching maturity he has been engaged in farming, and now lives with his father, conducting the homestead property. Besides general farming operations, he devotes considerable attention to stock-raising. He is a young man of diligent habits, careful and thorough agricultural methods, equitable dealing in all his transactions, and stands high in the estimation of all classes in the township. Like his worthy father, he is a firm adherent of the Republican party, although not inclined to seek public office. His religious faith is that of the Evangelical Association.

LOMMATSCH, Theodore H., who is the owner of 220 acres of very desirable land in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born on his present farm, March 25, 1864, a son of Herman Lommatsch. The subject of this sketch was reared on the homestead place, meanwhile receiving his education in the common schools. He has always followed farming, and his labors have been attended with profitable results. In 1906, he built a spacious and attractive house on his farm, which is pronounced the finest country residence in Livingston County.

On March 3, 1892, Mr. Lommatsch was united in marriage with Katharine Klein, daughter of John Klein, a retired farmer, living at Chenoa, McLean County. This union resulted in three children, namely: Clara Viola, born February 5, 1893. Ralph Theodore, born February 26, 1900, and Leone Cora, born June 19, 1902.

In politics, Mr. Lommatsch is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, but has no aspirations for public office. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church.



Margaret J. Thomas.

LONG, Charles Henry, M. D.—The universal truth of brotherhood is widely recognized, and that the man serves God best who serves his fellowmen. There is no profession or line of business which calls for greater self-sacrifice or more devoted attention than that of medicine, and the successful physician is he who, through love for his kind, gives his life to the relief of human suffering. Dr. Charles Henry Long of Pontiac, Livingston County, Ill., is one of the ablest representatives of this noble calling engaged in practice in this part of the state.

Dr. Long was born in Dimmick Center, LaSalle County, Ill., May 14, 1850, a son of Archibald Long, Jr., and Adaline (Leigh) Long, the former born in Gallipolis, Ohio, October 27, 1825, and the latter born in the same place, May 22, 1829, and they were married in 1847. The grandfather of Dr. Long, Archibald Long, Sr., born in Tennessee, September 24, 1791, was one of a large family of children left orphans, his father having been killed by the Indians while taking a load on a flatboat down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. Archibald Long, Sr., traveled through Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina, and acquired considerable useful information during his wanderings. In October, 1813, he married Catherine Kellar, and settled in Gallipolis, Ohio, where the greater portion of his family was born and where he acquired some property. He also became prominent in local affairs and secured the maintenance of select schools in his county. Early in life he was a class leader and exhorter in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and later was licensed to preach by Bishop Morris. In 1835 he moved to Knox County, Ill., and soon began interesting himself in the building of the first church in Hermon, Knox County, bearing the greater part of the expense himself. At camp meetings he was recognized as a wonderful exhorter and preacher. In 1849 he removed to LaSalle County, Ill., and engaged in farming, his sons Archibald, Jr., and Abram settling on adjacent farms.

Robert Leigh, the father of Adaline Leigh, was born in Massachusetts, his grandfather, private secretary of King George III., of England, having emigrated to that colony for political reasons. He married Mary Booth, and settled at Gallipolis, Ohio, removing to Hermon, Knox County, Ill., in 1835. Robert Leigh was a soldier in the War of 1812, so that it may easily be seen that Dr. Long comes of distinguished and loyal ancestry. The father of Dr. Long, Archibald Long, Jr., built and operated a sawmill and gristmill at Knoxville, Ill., but later engaged in farming.

Dr. Long was educated in the public schools of Dimmick, LaSalle County, Ill., until he was fifteen years old, when he entered Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., and studied during 1865 and 1866. In 1867 he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ill., and was graduated therefrom in the class of 1873 with the degree of B. S., and with the honor of being President of the college class. During his college

course it became necessary for him to remain out several terms in order to earn sufficient money to continue his studies, and this he did by teaching and working on the farm. His first school was taught during 1878. After leaving college, Dr. Long engaged in teaching for several years, and was Principal of the schools at Mackinaw, Stanford and Homer, Ill. Having, however, decided to embrace the medical profession, he entered the office of Dr. L. Pratt, Dr. E. H. Pratt and Dr. J. R. Kippox. In 1875 he matriculated at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, and was graduated from the Chicago Homœopathic Medical College with the degree of M. D., in 1878, and in the same year received his certificate authorizing him to practice in the State from the Illinois Board of Health. Later he received the honorary degree of M. D., from Hahnemann Medical College.

In April, 1878, Dr. Long located at Pontiac, Ill., and commenced the practice of medicine as a homœopathic physician and surgeon, which he has continued to this day with marked success. He was appointed and served as United States Pension Examiner for the county, holding this office for eight years, under Presidents Hayes and Arthur. For eight years he has been agent of the Sterry estate, and also has been engaged in developing about 500 acres of La Porte County (Ind.) swamp land, which is owned by Dr. and Mrs. Long. He is also interested in the McWilliams Land Company which owns 5,500 acres in La Porte County, Ind. Dr. Long was elected Coroner of Livingston County in 1880, on the Republican ticket, and was re-elected, serving eight years, during which time were held the inquests over the victims of the terrible Chatsworth wreck, August 10, 1887, on the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad, when seventy-four excursionists for Niagara Falls lost their lives, and many more were maimed for life. This deplorable accident was caused by the double-header train running into a burned culvert bridge. Dr. Long is a director in the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company, and a director of the Pontiac State Bank. He has been Secretary of the Pontiac Riverview Chautauqua Association from its start. He is also director and secretary of the McWilliams Land Company; is a charter member and examiner of the Pontiac Camp of Modern Woodmen; senior member of the Illinois Homœopathic Medical Association, having joined it in 1884 and been its secretary in 1897 and 1899; is a member of the Central Illinois Medical Association, in which he has held the office of President; is also a member of the Illinois River Medical Association and of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

Dr. Long is perhaps better known on account of his religious work. His paternal grandfather having been a preacher in the Methodist church, and his father a member and leading official of that church at LaSalle for nearly fifty years, Dr. Long naturally early united with the church, and at the age of fifteen was made an officer in the Sunday School, being its secretary. He has

seldom been allowed to remain out of office since that time. In point of service, he is the oldest member of the official Board of the Pontiac Methodist Episcopal Church, and is serving his ninth year as President of the Trustees of the church. He has been a Superintendent of the Sunday School twenty-nine years, and twenty-four annual picnics of the school have been held under the oaks on the lawn in front of his residence. This school, under his able management, has grown to be the largest in Central Illinois. For eight years he served as secretary of the Livingston County Sunday School Association. He was elected one of the two lay delegates from the Central Illinois Conference to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held at Cleveland in 1896, and was also seated at the same conference in 1900. Dr. Long secured the organization of the Lay Association of the Central Illinois Methodist Episcopal conference in 1896, and served as its President seven years. He was editor of the "Pontiac Methodist" for a number of years; has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Wesleyan University since 1897; is recognized as the Historian of the Pontiac church, and is Chairman of the Finance Committee, of the Music Committee and the Church Committee, and is always eager and willing to render any service for his beloved church.

In politics, Dr. Long has always been a Republican. His family were anti-slavery people, and he is greatly interested in temperance and the cause of prohibition.

Dr. Long was married, March 13, 1877, to Miss Martha Viemont, daughter of John Viemont, of Mackinaw, Ill. Mrs. Long died early in 1884, leaving three children: Eva M., born June 10, 1878; Archibald, born in 1880, and Robert, born in 1883. On March 5, 1885, Dr. Long married Miss Lida Sterry, daughter of C. W. Sterry of Pontiac, Ill., who was born at Esmer Center, Livingston County, Ill., August 14, 1862. She was reared on the farm and attended district school, and then entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., where she was a student for several years. When still a young girl, Mrs. Long engaged in church work, was a teacher in the Sunday School, and was a member of the choir, serving as organist. After her marriage she completed the Chautauqua Literary Circle Course and received her diploma. She and Dr. Long are as one in their love for church work, and effect a great deal of good, laboring together to assist those less fortunate than they. Mrs. Long is a member of the Letitia Stevenson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, member of the "Clonian," the oldest literary society of Pontiac. Two of her ancestors were soldiers in the Revolution,—Nathaniel Harding, and David Sterry, the latter participating in the battle of Trenton. The children born to Dr. and Mrs. Long were: Christopher Sterry, born March 11, 1891, now attending the Northwestern University at Evanston; and Mary Katherine, born February 27, 1897.

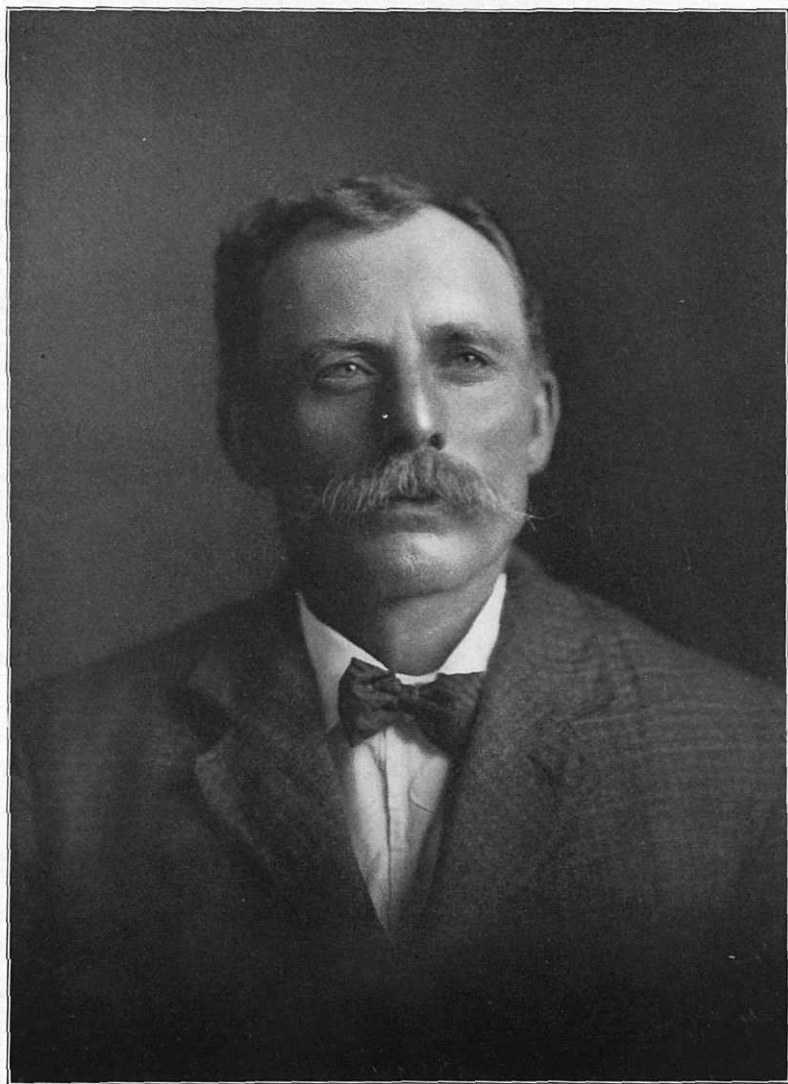
Dr. Long is quiet and studious in his habits,

rather conservative, and a very careful detail worker, possessing in a remarkable degree the desire to help others and to make the world better as far as lies in his power, as is shown by the time he devotes to temperance and church work. He has devoted himself along these lines in Pontiac for thirty-one years at a personal loss. He is more inclined towards benevolent, church and temperance work, than to political affairs, and is recognized as one of the leading laymen of the Methodist church.

LONGMYER, George R., once a prominent farmer in Livingston County, was born in Sullivan Township, July 9, 1863, and died at Ratoon, N. M., December 13, 1906, being finally laid to rest in Pontiac cemetery. His life was one of worthy endeavor and of commendable success, a fitting example to those who would achieve what is good and profitable in life. He was a son of David H. and Maria (Royal) Longmyer, his father being a native of Kentucky, and his mother of Indiana. His grandfather Longmyer came to Mazon, Ill., where he was one of the early settlers. In 1854 he removed to Sullivan Township, where he bought 160 acres of land from the United States Government, which is now the home farm of David H. Longmyer. George gained his education in the district schools near his father's home, passed his youth on the farm and was a member of his parents' household until his marriage, January 15, 1896, to Della M. Baker (born in Dwight), daughter of W. E. and Sarah (Cheesbro) Baker. W. E. Baker was born in Ohio and his wife in New York City. After his marriage Mr. Longmyer bought of his father eighty acres of land in Sullivan Township, where he was engaged in farming and stock-raising with much success until his removal to Amity Township. That event was brought about by the burning of his home in Sullivan Township June 21, 1902. In Amity Township he operated a farm of 230 acres until February 15, 1906, when he took up his residence in Pontiac. For land in Amity Township he paid one hundred dollars an acre, and two years and three months later he sold it at an advance of twenty-five dollars an acre. He lived quietly at Pontiac until September 1, 1906, when he went to New Mexico, where he died not long afterward. His widow has since made her home in Pontiac. They had three children: Constance Helen, born November 22, 1896; Emery Eugene, born February 6, 1898; Ellis George, born March 12, 1900, and died June 21, 1902.

Mr. Longmyer was a member of the Baptist Church. An advocate of and laborer for temperance, he allied himself with the Prohibition party and in every way proved himself a citizen of much patriotic and public spirit.

LOUDERBACK, Levi.—Livingston County and Levi Louderback have grown old together, and mention of either without the other, would indeed be an incomplete history of this part of the State. Wilderness still was king when Mr.



George Weber

Louderback was born near Danville, Vermilion County, Ill., December 10, 1832, and his infant cry resounded against the rude walls of a log cabin, outside of which the snow piled in huge drifts, and the winter winds vied with the hungry wolves in perpetuating the dreary and unrelieved desolation. When the time came for him to go to school he was obliged to trudge two miles through the timber, as there were no roads at that time, and the timber had been blazed that the wayfarer might not lose his way in the interminable stretches.

Thomas and Sarah (Springer) Louderback, parents of Levi, were born in Kentucky and Ohio, respectively, Mr. Louderback having arrived in Brown County, Ohio, in the early '20s. where he met his future wife. He was married about 1823, and in 1827 drove to Danville, Ill., taking with him the first domestic turkeys seen in this part of the State. He found little to encourage an ambitious farmer, but he settled in the timber and did fairly well until 1834, when he again loaded his household goods into a wagon and drove across prairie to Amity Township, taking with him his turkeys and sheep, and locating on the banks of Scattering Point Creek, where he farmed at first on a small scale. He underwent all of the hardships and privations of pioneering, but succeeded as he deserved, and in time owned 200 acres of land, considerable of which he cleared of heavy timber and underbrush. He died while the country was still largely unsettled, March 8, 1854, his wife having pre-deceased him in 1842. Of his five sons and three daughters, all lived to maturity. Liberty, a resident of Cornell, died June 13, 1907, at the age of eighty-three years; Mary is the deceased wife of Samuel McCormick, and died in May, 1894; Mills is a resident of Jefferson County, Neb. Levi lives in Livingston County; William died in 1864; Thirza is the wife of William Hallam, of Geudon Springs, Okla.; Mahala, wife of Calvin Blue, died in 1886; and Thomas lives in Parsons, Kan.

In his youth Levi Louderback worked hard on his father's farm, all of the boys taking a hand as soon as their physical strength permitted, thus allowing their father more time to make shoes, which he did in connection with farming many years. Not only did he make shoes for his family, but for his neighbors as well, and thus was a very useful landsman in the early days. It was not, however, until Levi had attained to fifteen years, and had worked long at supporting himself, that he was able to buy his first pair of boots. He continued on the old place until after his father's death, and in 1856, in order to see the country and visit relatives, joined four boys of the neighborhood in a wagon trip to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and to Omaha, Neb. A feature of this expedition was deer hunting, in which they were fairly successful, but their investigations disclosed no place more thoroughly satisfying than Illinois, and after many broadening experiences they returned to their respective homes. Mr. Louder-

back thereafter worked a portion of the old place, and subsequently bought out the other heirs, becoming owner of 124 acres in Sections 20 and 21, and he also bought the fifty acres in Section 16, which now is his home. In 1898 he disposed of the old Louderback farm, and moved to Cornell, where he purchased property, but a year later came back to his farm, where he is engaged in the raising of general produce and stock. He has a comfortable and well tilled place, abounding in many evidences of taste and refinement.

The married life of Mr. Louderback began March 1, 1863, when he was united to Sarah Jane Stretch, born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., February 19, 1840, a daughter of William and Mary (Blue) Stretch, who were born in Ohio. She died July 26, 1896, aged fifty-six years, five months, and seven days. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Louderback, Ulysses W. is a resident of Pontiac and now is serving as County Judge of Livingston County; Harriet is teaching school near Odell, Ill.; Ella died in infancy; John is now managing the home farm; Guy is an attorney of Pontiac; Harry died June 20, 1907; Mary died March 18, 1890. The Louderback family has contributed generously and unstintingly of character, and purpose and achievement to the history of Livingston County, and those who now represent it in the active fields of endeavor, especially in law, are endowed with special gifts of intellect, heart and understanding. Mr. Louderback is a Republican and member of the Methodist Protestant church.

LOVELOCK, James, Pontiac, Livingston County, Ill. Livingston County has been fortunate in having among its pioneers and later citizens a number of men of prominence in different walks of life, who are of English lineage and nativity. It is largely to the English blood that we owe the characteristics of our forefathers, whose aspirations and endeavors resulted in our American independence and indirectly in the glory of the America of today. Wherever his lot has been cast, the Englishman has proved to be a most worthy citizen, and his industry and enterprise have become proverbial. His patriotism and public spirit have invariably conserved the advancement and prosperity of the community in which he has made his home. Such a praise-worthy citizen was the subject of this sketch.

James Lovelock was born at Hannington, Hampshire, England, May 15, 1829, a son of George and Mary (Palmer) Lovelock, who lived out their days in the land of their birth. He was very meagerly educated in the common schools near his childhood home. Indeed, he often said that "the schools were very common," and that he "did not attend them very long at that." In 1851, when he was almost twenty-two years old, he set out for America, embarking May 9 on the sailing-vessel "Victoria," which landed him in New York, June 10. From New York he went to Michigan. After doing farm labor there for two years, he journeyed down

into Indiana and located in Laporte County. There he remained until 1863, when he came to Illinois to establish a home in Livingston County. By hard work, industry and economy, he acquired 200 acres of good land in Saunemin Township, which he immediately began to improve and eventually brought under a high state of cultivation. While devoting his farm to mixed agriculture he gave special attention to stock-raising. There he lived and prospered until the fall of 1897, when he bought a fine residence on West South Street, Pontiac. He died September 1, 1899, and his mortal remains sleep in Five Mile Grove cemetery in Saunemin Township.

Mr. Lovelock married Miss Mina Thomas, June 18, 1855, who was born in Germany, June 8, 1830, and came to America with her parents in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas settled at Michigan City, Ind., where they both lived out their allotted days. Following are the names of the children of James and Mina (Thomas) Lovelock: Amelia, who lives in St. Louis, Mo.; W. Scott, whose home is in Phillipsburg, Kan.; Charles, Frank and James T., who live on their father's old homestead; Anna, Julia, George and Albert P.; Lorenzo, who died when six years old; Elizabeth, who died in infancy.

Born and baptized into the Church of England, it was to be expected that, in the United States, Mr. Lovelock should have identified himself with the Protestant Episcopal Church. A man of progressive ideas he took much interest in educational affairs, and long and very ably served his fellow-citizens in Saunemin Township as School Director. Politically he was a Democrat.

LOWER, Abram, one of the very earliest settlers of Broughton Township, Livingston County, who settled here in 1858 and in 1860 commenced to open up a farm which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, was born in Blair County, Pa., October 10, 1835, and comes of an old and famous German-American family. His grandfather, Adam Lauer (as the name was then spelled) was born in Germany, but came to the Colonies prior to the Revolution and was with Washington at Valley Forge, and served through the remainder of the war, dying April 16, 1833, aged seventy-eight years. His son, David Lower, born in Blair County, Pa., married Susan Rhodes of the same county, and they had nine children, five boys and four girls.

The early life of Mr. Lower was spent on his father's farm, and while he was working on it he attended public school, learning the carpenter trade in Pennsylvania. He has followed this occupation in connection with farming, and has been very successful, his property now being one of the best in the county. On October 16, 1860, Mr. Lower married at Dixon, Ill., Catherine Miller, born and educated in Pennsylvania, and who died in 1906. The following children were born to them: Margaret, Mrs. Walter Morrison, of Barclay, Neb.; Augusta, Mrs. Percy Glover, of Custer County, Neb.; Albert and Leroy, farmers of Livingston County; Frank, a farmer on the homestead; Marietta, Mrs. Cyrus Hiddles-

son, her husband a farmer of Kankakee County, Ill.; Lillian, Mrs. T. P. Maguire, of Campus, Ill.; Grace, Mrs. B. C. Morris, her husband a farmer of Livingston County; Gertrude, Mrs. John W. Parsons, her husband in hardware business at Piper City; and three children who are deceased.

In politics Mr. Lower is a Democrat and, for a number of years, served acceptably as Supervisor and for six terms was Collector. He is a member of the German Baptist church, to the support of which he liberally contributes. Having lived for so many years in Broughton Township, he is recognized as one of its representative citizens and enjoys the confidence and respect of all who have the honor of his acquaintance. Through hard work and frugal saving he has accumulated a considerable property and brought up his family, and is deserving of all consideration.

LYNN, George, Justice of the Peace, a prominent citizen and popular official, as well as a veteran of the Civil War, has been a resident of Fairbury, Ill., since the fall of 1859. On first arriving in this locality he was employed at farm work by a Mr. Cropsey, attending the district school during the winter months. On April 3, 1851, he enlisted in Company B, Eleventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three months' service under President Lincoln's first call for 75,000 men, being mustered into service by Capt. Pope, then the mustering officer at Springfield, and subsequently a Major-General in the army. The Eleventh Regiment was sent to Villa Ridge, near Cairo, where it was drilled in military tactics, and then to Bird's Point, Mo., where it was engaged in several skirmishes with a band of guerillas under command of Jeff Thompson. On the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Lynn returned to Fairbury, and on July 8, 1861, enlisted for three years in the Third Regiment Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, which went to Camp Butler, near Springfield. The Regiment was organized by Col. Eugene A. Carr, was first dispatched to St. Louis, Mo., finally becoming a part of the command of Gen. John C. Fremont. The regiment was then ordered to Springfield, Mo., with Gen. Fremont, who was superseded by Gen. Hunter, who marched the troops back to Rolla, Mo. Later Gen. Samuel R. Curtis ordered the troops to Springfield, Mo., and drove the forces of Gen. Price into Arkansas, fighting every day, and during this campaign Mr. Lynn's horse was shot under him. The regiment was in encampment at Cross Hollow, Ark., under Gen. E. A. Carr. Gen. Siegel's Division was at the same time at Bentonville, Ark., and Gen. Curtis' headquarters were at Sugar Creek, Ark., the three Divisions comprising about 10,000 men. The Confederate forces were driven out of Arkansas after the battle of Pea Ridge. There the Army of the Southwest, under Gen. Curtis, met the enemy under Gen. Van Dorn, at Pea Ridge, March 7 and 8, 1862, the regiment of Mr. Lynn being engaged on the second and third days of the fight. The Confederate forces having cut off his supplies, Gen. Curtis was



Susan Webb

obliged to change his position, and for thirty-six hours the fighting was fierce, ending in the first decisive victory for the Union forces. The command of Mr. Lynn was then sent to Batesville, on the White River, the objective point being Helena, Ark., Island No. 10 having been taken shortly before. At Helena the regiment received supplies, of which it was sorely in need, and there remained until the Vicksburg campaign began.

Eight companies of the regiment were then sent to Tennessee, four remaining behind. The company to which Mr. Lynn belonged did not rejoin the regiment until it reached Memphis, late in the summer of 1864. In the meantime the four companies joined Gen. Grant in the Vicksburg campaign, and participated in the battle at Port Gibson, Miss. Afterwards they were sent to Jackson with Gen. Sherman, later were with Gen. Grant, after which they faced Gen. Pemberton on the road to Vicksburg, at Champion Hills. There the Union troops were victorious and drove Pemberton back to Black River, where a battle was fought, and then began the siege of Vicksburg, which lasted until July 4, 1863, when the city was surrendered with 30,000 prisoners. Mr. Lynn then went with the Third Battalion, to New Orleans, which was attached to Gen. Banks' Division, Department of the Gulf, and afterwards sent to New Iberia, when they were attached to Gen. Franklin's Command, and operated there until the first of the year 1864, when they were sent to Port Hudson, La., to relieve the Third Massachusetts Cavalry, the latter taking the place of the Illinois regiment in Gen. Franklin's Command. Afterwards, in the summer of 1864, the Illinois battalion sold their horses to the Government, and the regiment was sent by boat to Memphis, Tenn., then went by boat to Cairo, and thence by rail to Camp Butler, near Springfield, where it was mustered out after three years' hard service. In September, 1874, Mr. Lynn was honorably discharged, and returned to Fairbury, resuming his former occupation.

Mr. Lynn was united in marriage on February 15, 1863, while at home on furlough, to Sarah A. Sypes, who was born at Troy, Ohio, and at an early day was brought by her mother to Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., her father being then deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lynn became the parents of seven children, six of whom are still living, namely: Dora, wife of Dr. Thatcher of Fairbury; W. G., who lives in Minnesota; Edna, who married M. P. Bartlett of Decatur, Ill.; Minnie, wife of Arthur Beard of the same city; John F., who also lives there; and Nellie who is at home. Bertha, the fourth in order of birth, became the wife of Percy B. Streater of Decatur, but is now deceased. All of the children received a good education, the girls graduating from the Fairbury High School.

Mr. Lynn has always been very active in connection with public matters in Fairbury. For a considerable period after the close of the war he was engaged in farming, after which he turned

his attention to various other occupations, among them being those of fire and life insurance and real estate. Politically, he is a Republican, and in 1896 was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, the functions of which he has discharged with ability and fidelity. His religious faith is that of the Baptist church. He is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being connected with Aaron Weider Post No. 75, in which he now acts in the capacity of Adjutant, having formerly been Commander. He enjoys the esteem and respect of a wide acquaintance.

LYONS, Stephen J., an extensive landholder, and prominent citizen of Nevada Township, Livingston County, Ill., where, for a number of years, he followed farming on an extensive scale, was born in Kendall County, Ill., a son of Thomas G. and Ellen (Murphy) Lyons, natives of Ireland. His parents each came to the United States, single, landing in New York, and there they were married, moving to Kendall County, Ill., at an early period. In 1868, Thomas G. Lyons located, with his family, on a farm of 160 acres in Nevada Township, Livingston County, the mother dying on this farm in November, 1882, and the father, October 16, 1902. At the time of his death, the latter was the owner of an entire section of land in Nevada Township, besides his Kendall County land. In politics, Thomas G. Lyons was a Democrat. He and his wife were devout Catholics, and he took a very active and conspicuous part in the organization of the first Catholic church in Odell, Ill., being a member of the building committee under whose supervision its first place of worship was built. He was subsequently a liberal contributor towards the erection of the present church edifice. The family of Thomas G. and Ellen (Murphy) Lyons consisted of five children, all of whom are living.

Stephen J. Lyons was reared on the paternal farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools. He began farming at home, and as his father advanced in years, soon assumed the management of the paternal farm. Besides his share of the homestead property, he is now the owner of 710 acres of land in Livingston County and elsewhere. From 1885 until sometime after his father's death, he was an extensive dealer in live-stock, buying and shipping many head yearly. He was also a breeder of Shorthorn Durham cattle, Norman horses and Poland-China hogs. At present he is making arrangements to rent out all of his land. When a young man, Mr. Lyons organized a horse-fair and sale, to be held at Odell, and this has been maintained ever since. At a later period, he assisted in starting the Odell Grain and Coal Company, a farmers' organization, of which he has been president for two years. He was one of the organizers of the first County Farmers' Institute, and for several years acted as one of its officers, always being an earnest advocate of a higher education for farmers. Mr. Lyons was a member of the building committee of the new

Catholic church in Odell, and it was largely through his influence that so good a structure was erected, his contention being that either a superior edifice, or none, should be built. This is the church to which he belongs.

In politics, Mr. Lyons is a Democrat and, although he never aspired to public office, he has served as Justice of the Peace and as School Treasurer. At one time he was strongly urged, and almost prevailed upon, to become a candidate for the county treasurership, but finally refused. Socially, he is connected with the Knights of Columbus, in which he officiates as Grand Knight, and with the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Lyons has always remained single.

MACKINSON, Daniel, a retired farmer now residing in Pontiac, Ill., but still owning a large farm in Esmen Township, Livingston County, which he acquired through many years of toilsome exertion, aided by sound judgment, thrifty management, and strict integrity, is a native of Derbyshire, England, where his birth took place, February 3, 1830. His parents, James and Mary (Gidda) Mackinson, were English by nativity, and his father was a contractor and builder in England, where he and his wife passed their entire lives. In 1854 Daniel Mackinson came to the United States, spending the first fourteen months following his arrival in this country in Massachusetts. He then moved to Kendall County, Ill., and, in 1860, to Cayuga, Livingston County, where, four years later, he bought a farm of 160 acres, in Esmen Township. This he thoroughly improved, making additions thereto from time to time until he had acquired 560 acres of land, and of which he is still the owner. In 1900, Mr. Mackinson withdrew from active pursuits, establishing his residence in Pontiac, where he has since lived at leisure. He also owns a quarter-section in Broughton Township.

On October 15, 1863, Mr. Mackinson was joined in matrimony with Sarah Fulton, who was born in Scotland, daughter of John and Jane (Hood) Fulton, and came to the United States with her parents, the family first locating in Kendall County, Ill., and subsequently removing to Livingston County. Eight children have resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mackinson, namely: Mary (Mrs. Collins), Belle (Mrs. Husted), George, Frank, John, James, William and Charles. He deeded 40 acres to Mary, and a section of land in Iowa to his sons.

Politically, Mr. Mackinson has been for many years an adherent of the Republican party, and he and his greatly esteemed wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. He is the possessor of an abundance of this world's goods, and being a man of the highest character, is respected by all classes in the community. Richly does he deserve the ease and contentment which now falls to his lot, after long continued and unremitting labor.

MAMER, John M., joint proprietor of one of the most flourishing manufacturing concerns in

Livingston County, Ill.,—the Brick & Tile Works at Campus—and recognized as a man of superior business qualifications, untiring energy and keen enterprise, was born in that county, August 1, 1869. His father and mother, Theodore and Katharine (George) Mamer, are natives of the Duchy of Luxemburg, where the former was born June 15, 1841, and the latter, in April, 1845. Theodore Mamer followed farming during the whole of his active life. In 1848, when seven years old, he was brought to the United States by his parents, who settled on a farm in Wisconsin, and Katharine George, his future wife, accompanied her parents from the Duchy of Luxemburg, to the same part of Wisconsin, in 1856. On attaining his majority, in 1862, Theodore Mamer came to LaSalle County, Ill., and after working as a farm-hand about four years, began farming on rented land, leading the life of a bachelor during the first year. In February, 1868, he located in Odell Township, Livingston County, still renting, and in June, 1874, he made his first purchase of land, buying 160 acres in Odell Township. Full of energy and perseverance he prospered in all his undertakings, and in course of time, became the owner of a half-section in that locality, and another half-section in Round Grove Township. In 1903 he withdrew from active business pursuits, and in 1906 moved to Odell, Ill., where he now lives in retirement, occupying his spacious, brick and stone mansion, the most attractive residence in the city. In politics, Theodore Mamer was a Democrat until the time when "free silver" became an issue, but has since acted independently of party restrictions. In religion, he adheres to the faith of the Catholic church. He and his wife had the following children besides John M., namely: Jacob, deceased in infancy; Nicholas L., associated with the subject of this sketch in Brick & Tile Works; Mary, teaching school in Chicago; Katie, married and residing at Port Washington, Wis.; Louis H., who is overseeing farm properties belonging to the family in Texas and Old Mexico; J. George, who lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Peter, who graduated from the Pontiac (Ill.) High School with the Class of '07, and is now attending the Northwestern University.

John M. Mamer received his education in the district schools of Livingston County, and in the Odell High School, where he was a pupil for two winters, after which he pursued a course of study in the Dixon (Ill.) Business College. In 1891, together with his brother, Nicholas L., he started a hardware store in Emington, Ill., and in 1893 they sold out the concern, and bought the tile factory at Campus. This factory was built and put into operation in 1882. The Mamer brothers rebuilt it, and the volume of their business has increased 400 per cent since they took possession. On September 26, 1906, John M. Mamer moved into his fine brick residence in Broughton, which is the south portion of the village of Campus.

The marriage of Mr. Mamer took place in



O. B. Wheeler.

Chicago, September 14, 1904, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Dr. Gunsaulus, and the newly-wedded couple visiting the St. Louis Exposition on their wedding trip. The bride was formerly Ruby Roberts, born in Kentucky, April 2, 1881. Mrs. Mamer is a daughter of Thomas D. and Georgia (Sisk) Roberts, and her father, who is of Welsh nativity, is superintendent of a mine in Southern Illinois. Her mother's family has been favorably known in the South for more than a century. Mr. and Mrs. Mamer have two children: Theodore Roberts, and LaVerne William, who are the first male descendants of the Mamer family, of the present generation bearing the name of Mamer.

Politically, John M. Mamer is classed as an independent voter, but he has acted with the Republican party since 1896, and for seven years has held the office of Town Clerk in Round Grove Township. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

MARSHALL, James Aftan, M. D.—Dr. Marshall was born in Middlesex County, Ontario, Canada, March 24, 1861, a son of Arthur and Susan (Stewart) Marshall, the former of whom was born near Belfast, Ireland, and the latter in Scotland. Arthur Marshall came to London, Canada, about 1848, and about the same year his wife arrived in the locality with her mother and sister. The young people were married about 1850, and thereafter engaged in general farming and stock-raising until the death of Mr. Marshall in 1885, his wife continuing to occupy the old homestead until her death in 1903.

Principally owing to his own resourcefulness and ability to support himself in the meantime, Dr. Marshall qualified as a teacher in Canada, and began this line of work when only eighteen years old, continuing it until after receiving his degree as a physician in Detroit, whither he removed for better professional advantages after his graduation from the high-school at Strathling, Ontario. After several months of practice in Chicago, Ill., he came to Pontiac in December, 1886, and two years later, December 20, 1888, he was united in marriage to Sarah C. Cook, a native of Pontiac, who died September 16, 1893. Of this union there was a daughter, Jean, now a high-school student, who was born June 18, 1892. The merit and ambition of Dr. Marshall was not slow in securing recognition in Pontiac, and he has built up a large practice upon the solid basis of profound professional attainments. He is a great student of general affairs, holds high social place as a member of the Knights Templar, Mystic Shrine and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He was reared in the Presbyterian church, but holds broad and tolerant religious views, and is exceedingly charitable in both his gifts and judgment of his fellow men. Politically he has avoided all responsibility save the conscientious casting of his vote and unswerving allegiance to Republican principles. The doctor profits by a genial and sympathetic man-

ner, and an innate adaptability to the needs and peculiarities of the various people with whom he is thrown in contact.

MARTIN, William E.—Although no longer a resident of Livingston County, William E. Martin is justly mentioned in this history, for he was largely instrumental in effecting many needed improvements and bore his part in local development during the early days of county life. Mr. Martin was born on the Isle of Man, near Ramsey, November 8, 1842, a son of William and Ann (Quayle) Martin, both natives of the Isle of Man, as were also their parents. In his native land the father followed farming, and in 1855, attracted by the better prospects in the New World, brought his little family to America, making his first stop in Peoria, and from there removing to Galva, Henry County, where they farmed for two years, but in 1857 came to Livingston County, settling near Indian Grove on the farm which John Martin now owns, entering the land from the Government at Danville. The family of William Martin was as follows: John P., a retired farmer, married Sarah Ann Smith whose parents were also pioneers of Indian Grove; Thomas B., a retired farmer of Vandalia; Charles S., who died about 1869; William E.; Ann, married James Wade and they had nine children, five of whom are yet living. The parents are both deceased and are buried in a cemetery near Fairbury. The elder Mr. Martin was a man highly respected in his community, and when he died in September, 1863, aged sixty-six, he left many friends to mourn his loss. His wife passed away in 1888, aged eighty-three, and both died in the faith of the Episcopal Church, having been members of the Church of England in their native land.

William E. Martin was about thirteen at the time the family located in Livingston County, and he did his part in developing the farm, remaining at home until his marriage, December 28, 1865, when he was united with Elizabeth Jane Maxwell, whose family settled in Indian Grove about 1833, of whom she is now the only one surviving. Mrs. Martin was born in Indian Grove, August 13, 1849, a daughter of Randolph H. and Mabel (Moore) Maxwell, natives of Virginia and North Carolina, respectively. They were married in Tennessee and were among the first settlers of this locality. Here the father of Mrs. Martin died in February, 1866, and his widow made her home with Mrs. Martin and her son, Joel R. Maxwell, until her death in 1886, aged seventy-one. They had twelve children, but only two sons and a daughter grew to maturity: Jonathan B. died when twenty-seven; Joel R., died in June, 1907, having married Jane Martin, who is also deceased, and they left three daughters,—Minta, who married Rev. John Michiels, a clergyman of the German Evangelical church, Myrtle, the widow of David Jones, residing in Fairbury, and Ida, wife of Joseph Hanks a farmer of Lexington, Ill.; and Mrs. Martin.

After Mr. and Mrs. Martin were married, for two years they had charge of his father's home-

stead, but later purchased some land in Indian Grove, and in 1868 sold that land and bought eighty acres on Section 1, Yates Township, McLean County, which was raw prairie, of which only ten acres had been turned under. It is now one of the best pieces of property in the county, all of it having been placed under cultivation by Mr. Martin, who erected upon it good buildings. The first house was only 16 x 24 feet, containing three rooms, and here all their children, but one, were born. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Martin was as follows: William H., born August 20, 1867, in Indian Grove Township, married Alice Farley, June, 1890, is now living in Colorado, for many years having been a popular teacher in the County of Livingston; Maud C., born in Yates Township, August 7, 1869, married Oscar O. Dillon, of Eppards Point Township, and they have two children,—Gladys and Claud; Charles M., born March 14, 1873, in Yates Township, is a conductor on the Chicago City street-car lines; Neva B., born Jan. 17, 1877, married William Barnes a farmer of Indian Grove; Walter C., born July 8, 1879; Raymond R., born May 29, 1884, married Lula Corkhill, a farmer of Avoca Township; Mabel A., born January 3, 1887, who has been successfully engaged in teaching for several years in Livingston County, conducting a school in the locality of her home; Bessie L., born August 12, 1888, is also a teacher at home; Lorna D., born April 5, 1891, is at home. The children have all been given good educations and have grown up into worthy men and women and a credit to the careful training of their parents. Mrs. Martin is a Methodist, and Mr. Martin contributes liberally towards the support of this church. In politics he is a Democrat, and loyally supports the candidates of his party. Both he and his wife can look back upon a life of hard work honestly performed, upon many deeds of kindness and works of charity, and they can number among their warm, personal friends, the very best people of both Livingston and McLean Counties.

MCCABE, George W., cashier of the Commercial National Bank of Chatsworth, Ill., and a highly reputed financier of Livingston County, as well as a man very prominent in connection with the public affairs of Chatsworth, was born in the vicinity of Brimfield, Peoria County, Ill., March 1, 1863. His parents were Patrick and Catherine (Fox) McCabe, natives, respectively, of County Meath and County Louth, Ireland. Patrick McCabe came to the United States in 1845, landing in New Orleans. He was a soldier in the Mexican War under Gen. Scott. In 1850 he was married in New Orleans to Catherine Fox, she having arrived in this country in 1849. Shortly after their nuptials, they came up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, and thence by way of the Illinois to Peoria, locating on a tract of land near Brimfield in the same county. The place was new, and the father improved the farm, following the occupation of a farmer successfully for many years. About 1895 he withdrew from agricultural pursuits, removing to

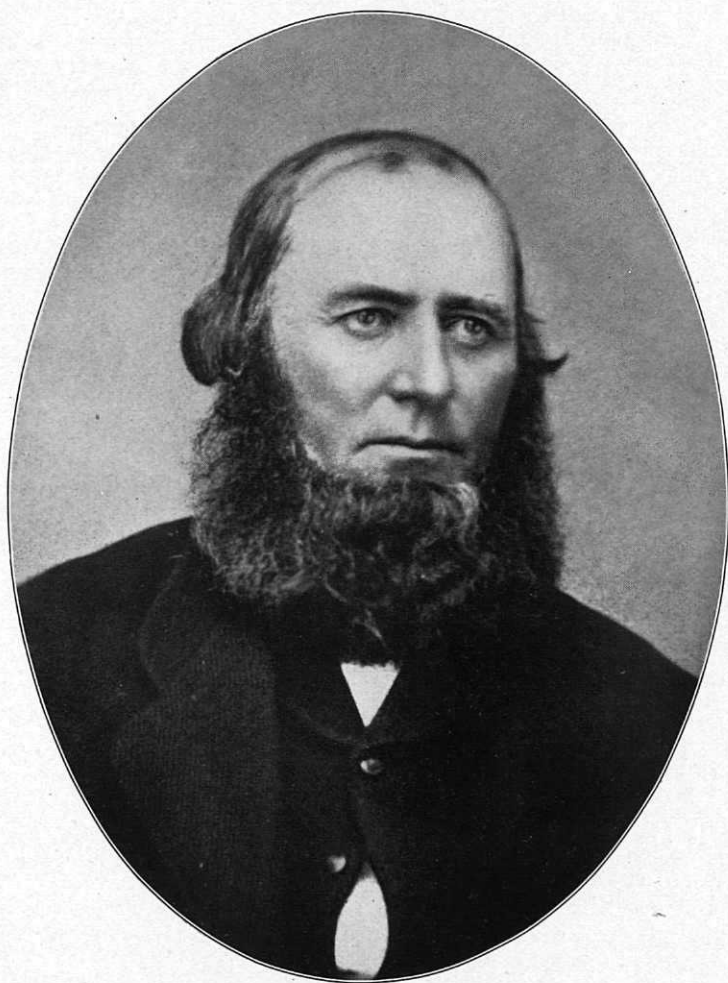
Peoria where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives in retirement.

The birth of George W. McCabe took place on the farm in Peoria County already mentioned, and his preparatory education was obtained in the district school nearby, and in the Brimfield High School. Subsequently he pursued a course of study in St. Viator's College, at Bourbonnais, Ill., and still later, studied book-keeping, and banking in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College in Chicago. In 1891, he commenced reading law with his brother, Edward D. McCabe, a well known attorney of Peoria, and in April, 1893, located in Chatsworth for the purpose of entering the banking business. After carefully investigating the advantages of the location, he opened a private bank which rapidly acquired a good patronage. So successful was the enterprise that it developed into the Commercial National Bank which was chartered in 1900. Associated with him as Directors in the institution are: John F. Ryan; John C. Corbett; Fred M. Bushway of Chatsworth and Edward D. McCabe of Peoria. Mr. McCabe has been the active manager of the bank. The capital stock is \$25,000, with a surplus of \$5,000. The average earnings have been twelve per cent. and the bank now owns the building occupied for its business. The deposits amount to \$250,000. In 1904 Mr. McCabe bought a controlling interest in the Farmers National Bank of Strawn, Ill., of which he is now the President, and is also connected with the Smith Dry Goods Company, of El Paso, Ill., a strong concern. Jointly with John F. Ryan, Mr. McCabe owns a plantation of 1,110 acres at Dublin, Miss., especially adapted to cotton growing, the supervision of which is entrusted to a local manager, the entire attention of Mr. McCabe being devoted to the financial transactions of the banks. He is an active member of the Illinois Bankers Association, and of the American Bankers Association.

On September 29, 1897, Mr. McCabe was married to Theresa M. Kehoe, of Chicago, born and reared in that city. Mrs. McCabe was graduated from St. Patrick's Academy of Chicago, and was a successful teacher in Chicago schools prior to her marriage. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McCabe: Catherine G., George K. and Edward F.

In politics, Mr. McCabe takes an independent course. For seven years he has served as President of the Village Board, and but once during this period has an opposition ticket appeared at the polls. In the course of his administration of affairs, many public improvements have been made, including five blocks of concrete pavement, and cement sidewalk throughout the town. In 1907 a well, 1,315 feet deep was sunk, costing \$4,500, and a pumping station is in process of construction, at an expense of \$7,000.

Mr. McCabe's conservative yet progressive banking ability, together with his practical ways, has proven a great help and stimulus to all legitimate business in Chatsworth and vicinity.



OSCAR B. WHEELER, SR.

MCCARTY, George T., an intelligent and progressive farmer, living in the northeast part of Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born on a farm in the vicinity of Pontiac, Ill., May 12, 1868, and is a son of John D. and Mary A. (Davis) McCarty. His father was a native of Ireland, born in 1839, and his mother from Logansport, Ind., where she was born in 1844. John D. McCarty was a farmer by occupation. When sixteen years of age he came to the United States, and after sojourning about a month in New York City, proceeded to Pontiac, Ill., and was employed as a farm hand near that place by a man named Oliver Perry. Later, he occupied a farm belonging to Morris Johnson, and continued to rent farms in Livingston County until 1891. In that year he established his residence in Dwight, Ill. When he arrived in Illinois, the region where he first located was very wild, and he often shot deer on the prairies. He had one brother who preceded him to this country, but no tidings of him have since been received. John D. McCarty spent the winter before his marriage in Bloomington, and, while there, united with the Methodist church. In politics, he was a firm Republican, but had no inclination to seek public office. He died on October 18, 1894, and his widow subsequently married again, becoming the wife of Perry F. Landphere.

George T. McCarty received his education in the public schools of Pontiac and the Odell High School, and worked on the home farm until he was twenty-one years old. On attaining his majority he went to Joliet, Ill., where he was employed by the Standard Oil Company for somewhat over eight years. His wife had inherited a piece of land in Esmen Township and on this he located in 1903, and has since built a fine house and substantial and convenient barns, as well as greatly improving the property in other respects.

The marriage of Mr. McCarty took place in Odell, Ill., June 30, 1892, on which date he was wedded to Agnes K. Allen, born in Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., August 23, 1865. Mrs. McCarty is a daughter of William Allen, whose personal and family history is narrated elsewhere in this volume. This union has been the source of two children, namely: Louis D., born August 16, 1893; and Charles E., born May 23, 1895.

Mr. McCarty is a supporter of the Republican party, but is averse to mingling in political contests with a view to securing public office. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and the White Cross Society, of Joliet.

MCDONALD, A. G., a prosperous farmer and prominent citizen of Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Taylor County, W. Va., June 9, 1855, a son of Patrick F. and Elizabeth (Husted) McDonald, born, respectively, May 12, 1825, and February 16, 1827. Both parents were reared and educated in what is now West Virginia, and there were united in marriage on April

13, 1848. The paternal grandfather, Benjamin McDonald, and his wife were natives of the same locality, as was also the great-grandfather, James McDonald. For 150 years, the family lived and died in the Old Dominion, the earliest ancestor in this country, Benjamin McDonald, coming from Scotland. On the maternal side, the grandfather was Moses Husted, son of James, who was a son of Moses, who was a son of James,—and thus for generations more remote. The maternal grandmother was Mary (Goodwin) Husted, of old Virginia stock. In 1865, Patrick F. McDonald moved with his family to Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., and bought a farm of 160 acres. To this, in course of time, he added 160 acres more, putting on many improvements. In 1893, he established his residence in Pontiac, and since then has lived in retirement. In politics, he has been accustomed, of late years, to act independently. While living in Esmen Township, he held the office of School Director, and also, at another time, that of Assessor. On the outbreak of the Civil War, he served on the Home Guard force in West Virginia.

In boyhood A. G. McDonald attended the public schools in the vicinity of his home, completing his education in Eureka College and Illinois Wesleyan University. After finishing his studies he returned to the home place, and for several years assisted his father in the farming operations. In 1895 he bought a part of the homestead property, and afterwards gradually acquired the remainder of it, so that the entire 320 acres now belong to him beside lands in Iowa.

Mr. McDonald was married, April 20, 1887, to Anna Whalen, who was born in Sunbury Township, Livingston County, Ill., a daughter of John and Ann (Foley) Whalen, natives of County Wexford, Ireland, and early settlers in that township. John Whalen, who was a farmer by occupation, died September 18, 1873, but his widow is still living. The offspring of their union numbered eight children, as follows: Gordon G., born February 3, 1888, and Arnold A., born December 16, 1889, both educated at St. Bead's College; Zita Marie, born January 24, 1892, and student in St. Andrew's Academy, at Morris, Ill.; Rosella, born January 24, 1894; Bessie, born August 12, 1896; Anna Loretta, born July 30, 1898; Theresa Edith, born February 25, 1900; and John Fleming, born December 4, 1902.

Politically, Mr. McDonald is a Democrat and has served his township as School Director for twenty years. In fraternal circles he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. McDonald is a devout member of the Catholic church.

MCDOWELL, John V., very generally and favorably known in the central and southern portions of Livingston County, Ill., as the able and efficient Cashier of the First National Bank of Forrest, an acute and conservative financier, and one of the leading citizens of his locality, was born in Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill.,

February 6, 1864, a son of Isaac P. and Jane (Russell) McDowell, natives of Ohio, where the father's birth occurred in Scioto County, August 17, 1824, and that of the mother, in Pickaway County, in 1834. Their marriage took place June 10, 1855. Mr. I. P. McDowell died in Denver, Colo., January 9, 1901, and his wife, August 26, 1891. The paternal grandparents of Mr. McDowell were John and Elizabeth (Price) McDowell. Grandfather McDowell was born in Woodford County, Ky., January 1, 1792, and died January 16, 1843, in Montgomery County, Ind., where he had moved in 1828. His wife was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, October 30, 1798, and died in Fairbury, Ill., October 10, 1880. Isaac P. McDowell was the first in a family of nine children. Jane (Russell) McDowell, mother of the subject of this sketch, was a daughter of William and Elizabeth (McArthur) Russell. Her father moved from Virginia to Ohio in early times, settling on the site of Columbus, the present capital of the latter State.

Mr. McDowell's father (Isaac P.) commenced teaching school when he was sixteen years old and pursued this occupation for thirteen years. He came from Ohio to Illinois in 1850, locating on a farm four miles north of Fairbury, where he remained three years, and then moved to Pontiac Ill., building the first store of any consequence there, which was occupied by the firm of Ladd, McDowell & McGregor. This concern handled the first goods shipped to Pontiac on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, after the completion of that line, in June, 1854. Isaac P. McDowell was a partner in the above mentioned firm for two years, when he sold his interest in the business and returned to his farm. There he lived until 1864, when he located in Fairbury, Ill., and became associated with his brother, Nelson S., in the dry-goods trade, continuing thus four years. In the spring of 1872 he organized the First National Bank, of Fairbury, having a capital stock of \$50,000, of which he acted in the capacity of President until the time of his death. He and his wife were the parents of six children, as follows: Lillian, who died in infancy; Thomas S. O., who is now President of the First National Bank of Fairbury, and also of the First National Bank, of Forrest, Ill.; Elmer E., John V., Eva, and Lura. Isaac P. McDowell and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which the father officiated for many years as a Steward. In politics, he was always an ardent Republican, and, in 1867, purchased the "Fairbury Journal" in order to keep that paper from falling into the hands of the Democrats. When the "right man" made his appearance, he disposed of it to him, with the proviso that it should be published thenceforth under Republican auspices.

The boyhood days of John V. McDowell were passed in Fairbury, where he received a good common-school education, afterwards taking a commercial course in college. In 1884, when twenty years of age, he entered his father's bank, where he remained until 1905, then locating in Forrest as Cashier of the banking house

purchased from S. A. Hoyt & Co., and reorganized as the First National, with a capital of \$25,000.

On January 1, 1889, Mr. McDowell was united in marriage with Ida Amsler, born in Fairbury, Ill., and a daughter of John and Sarah (Clifton) Amsler, early settlers in Livingston County, where the father followed farming. The parents of Mrs. McDowell now reside in San Diego, Cal., Mr. Amsler having retired from agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. McDowell have two children,—Vanessa and Edith.

Politically, Mr. McDowell is an unswerving Republican, and holds the office of President of the Village Board. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America; and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

McGOWAN, Daniel.—Ireland has given America some of its best citizens. The quick, brilliant, vigorous native of Ireland soon finds employment for his brains and hand upon arrival in this country, and his children combine the best qualities of the two nations. Daniel McGowan, a farmer and stock-raiser of Section 10, Sunbury Township, Livingston County, comes from Irish parents, and was born in Dayton Township, LaSalle County, Ill., November 1, 1863, a son of James and Mary (Ahearn) McGowan, both natives of Ireland, the father having been born in County Mayo and the mother in Tipperary. The two families emigrated to America, settling in Ottawa, Ill., where the young people became acquainted and were married about 1855. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. James McGowan commenced farming in LaSalle County, renting land until they bought eighty acres in Allen Township, where they developed an excellent home. On April 14, 1873, the mother passed away at the homestead. The following children were born to James McGowan and wife: Mary, married John Drinnan, a retired farmer of Gilman, Ill.; Martin, a farmer near Sedan, Kan.; John, of Sioux City, Iowa; Daniel; Kate, married Hugh McClintock, of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Timothy, a farmer in Sunbury Township, Livingston County; William, a grain dealer of Oto, Iowa. In 1896 James McGowan sold his interest in LaSalle County, and removed to Rock County, Minn., where he bought 320 acres and developed a fine farm. He then retired from active life and now lives with his son John. Although a man of a reserved temperament, he is possessed of force of character and is a close observer of man and things. Commencing as a renter, by hard work, industry and thrift, he acquired two fine farms and more than bore his part in public affairs. Not only was he successful, but he set such an example to others that he has always been regarded as a very valuable asset in any community in which he has cast his lot. As was his wife, he is a devout member of the Catholic church. He has always been a Democrat.

Daniel McGowan began his school days in La-



Fred. G. White

Salle County in the district schools, and as soon as he was large enough, was given a man's work on the farm. Remaining in LaSalle County until 1877 he moved to Livingston County and rented land for some time in Saunemin Township, but in 1879 located in Sunbury Township, which has since been his home. On February 11, 1895, Mr. McGowan was married to Mary Delahanty, who was born in Freedom Township, LaSalle County, is a daughter of Patrick and Mary (O'Leary) Delahanty, both natives of County Tipperary, Ireland. The father died in 1893, but the mother still survives, living with her son Michael, on the old homestead in LaSalle County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McGowan rented land until 1902, when Mr. McGowan bought his present farm, which was partially improved, but which he has developed so that it is now considered one of the best farms in the township. Mr. and Mrs. McGowan have had children as follows: James V., born September 1, 1896; Marie P., born January 23, 1899; Daniel A., born March 5, 1901; and Ursula G., born May 23, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. McGowan are consistent members of the St. Bernard's Catholic church. Mr. McGowan is a Democrat, and although public office has been offered him, he has not cared to accept, preferring to devote himself to his private affairs. He is a good farmer and stock-raiser, and has a good grade of horses, cattle and hogs. Through his own unaided efforts he has risen from the rank of a renter to the ownership of some very valuable farming land, and is a man of importance in his community. He enjoys an excellent reputation as a business man of sound judgment and unquestioned integrity; is an excellent manager and a friend of progress, advocating any changes which he believes will work out ultimately for the best interests of the public.

McKINLEY, Robert, a well known and worthy farmer, of Charlotte Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born at Hyde Park, N. Y., May 14, 1872, a son of Robert and Lucy (Maxwell) McKinley, natives of Scotland, the father's birthplace being in Ayrshire. The latter, a landscape gardener by occupation, came to Canada at the age of thirty-five years, going thence to Hyde Park, N. Y., whence he moved to Illinois in 1874. While a resident of Hyde Park, he married Lucy Maxwell, who now makes her home with her son William on the old homestead, the father having died in 1904. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. Robert McKinley, the son, was two years old when his parents moved to Livingston County, where he received his education in the common schools. Since early manhood he has devoted his attention to farming, his labors being attended with profitable results. On January 12, 1898, he was united in marriage with Mary Spray, born in Livingston County, Ill., and their union has been blessed with one boy, Clarence, now eight years old.

In politics Mr. McKinley is a supporter of the

Democratic party, and has served the public in local affairs. His religious connection is with the Congregational church.

McMAHON, Joseph H., an honored veteran of the Civil War and the owner of a fine farm situated four miles from Chatsworth, Ill., but now retired from active business and spending his days at leisure in his beautiful home in the village of Chatsworth, was born in Putnam County, Ill., April 8, 1845, a son of Owen McMahon, and a native of Ireland, the maiden name of his mother being Margaret Smith, who was born in the State of Pennsylvania. Both parents died in Putnam County. Joseph H. McMahon was reared on his father's farm in Putnam County, and in 1862, enlisted in the Sixty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, afterwards serving in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth and Forty-seventh Regiments. Among other engagements he took part in the fighting at Mobile and in running blockades on the Mississippi and received a wound in the back, from which he never fully recovered. He was mustered out at Selma, Ala., his last term expiring in February, 1866, when he received an honorable discharge as Corporal. Returning to Putnam County after his discharge from the army, he moved thence to Ford County, Ill., in 1868. In 1880 he located in Chatsworth Township, Livingston County, where he bought 800 acres, which he afterwards sold and came to his present home, buying 400 acres. Upon this farm he successfully followed farming until the time of his withdrawal from active pursuits, when he sold part of his farm, but still retains 240 acres which he rents.

In September, 1870, Mr. McMahon was married to Elizabeth Hunt, whose grandfather was a soldier in the Blackhawk War. Her grandparents settled in Ohio at an early period, coming from that State to Illinois in 1832, when the Indians were numerous about the settlement. Her parents settled in Ford County and are now residing at Melvin, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. McMahon became the parents of five sons and three daughters, all of whom are living.

In politics, Mr. McMahon has always been identified with the Republican party, and has held all the township offices but never cared for office. The entire family attends the Methodist church. He is a member of the G. A. R.

McWILLIAMS, Charles David.—The financial interests of Dwight have a leading representative in Mr. McWilliams, member of a pioneer family of this city and himself one of the most successful of those bearing the honored name. The genealogy of the family is traced to Scotland, he representing the second generation in the United States. The founder of the race in this county was David McWilliams, who was born at Scotch Ridge, Belmont County, Ohio. In infancy David McWilliams was brought by his parents to Griggsville, Pike County, Ill., where he grew to manhood, and at the age of about twenty-one years came to Livingston County, settling at Dwight and becoming an important factor in

building up that place. (For further details see sketch of David McWilliams, following.) Entering among his townsmen and by dint of sagacious judgment, untiring energy and laborious application he acquired large interests, established a bank, conducted a mercantile store, and indeed was a factor in almost everything making for the advancement of the city.

The large ability possessed by the father descended to the sons, one of whom, Edward, now holds the office of vice-president of the Bank of Dwight; another, John P., has charge of some ten thousand acres of the McWilliams's farm lands near this city; and Charles David has for some years efficiently filled the office of cashier of the Bank of Dwight. The second son, James, died in 1898. There are two daughters, of whom Nellie is living in Dwight, and Louisa is the wife of Roy West of Chicago. Charles David McWilliams was born at Dwight October 19, 1872, and in boyhood the youth was given the best educational advantages the state could afford. On completing his preliminary studies in his home city he matriculated in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, and continued in that institution until his graduation with the class of 1896. On the completion of his course he returned to Dwight and entered the bank as bookkeeper, from which position in February of 1902 he was promoted to be cashier.

Ever since attaining his majority Mr. McWilliams has been an enthusiastic supporter of Republican principles and has never failed to support the party candidates with his ballot. His services in behalf of the party have attracted attention beyond the confines of his own city and county. Under the administration of Governor Deneen he was honored with the appointment of Treasurer of the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac, and in this responsible position he proved himself trustworthy and efficient. Movements for the benefit of Dwight receive his co-operation and support. Religious and educational projects have in him a stanch friend, and he has been an especially generous contributor to the Methodist Episcopal church. His marriage, solemnized July 12, 1905, united him with Miss Helen Carrott, who was born in Quincy, Illinois, and received superior educational advantages at Dana hall, Wellesley. Two sons bless their union, Charles David, Jr., born October 12, 1906, and John Polard, born November 5, 1908. The family represented by Mrs. McWilliams comes of southern lineage, and her mother, who bore the maiden name of Susan Culbertson, was born at Bedford, Indiana. Her father, Hon. James Carrott, was a graduate of Harvard University and became one of the leading lawyers of Quincy, Illinois. His death occurred in December of 1903 and closed a career unusually brilliant and successful.

McWILLIAMS, David.—Since practically the beginning of its history, the character and work of David McWilliams have formed an influential factor in the upbuilding of the city of Dwight. No stress of circumstances or reversal of fortune can take from this captain of manifold in-

dustry and resource, this civic father of a now prosperous community, the honor due him as a promoter of the mercantile, banking, real-estate, educational, political and religious interests of Livingston County. Coming here with the unspent enthusiasm of twenty years, and when but three houses broke the unsettled monotony of the locality, the man and his environment met and harmonized, producing results which have tended to the material and moral advancement of the community. The McWilliams family is of Scotch ancestry, Alexander McWilliams coming from Scotland to America in 1775. (For a more detailed genealogy of the family, see sketch of John McWilliams, an older brother of David McWilliams, on an adjoining page of this work.) James and Margaret (Lathmore) McWilliams, both, according to this record, said to have been natives of Belmont County, Ohio, became the parents of David McWilliams, where he was born January 14, 1834. A few months later the family removed to Griggsville, Pike County, Ill., where James McWilliams engaged in farming and later was interested for a time in the milling and distilling business, still later being engaged in the lumber business, and during the war period organized the Griggsville National Bank, of which he was President up to the date of his death in 1885. Originally a Jackson Democrat, on the organization of the Republican party, he became a zealous supporter of Republican principles. He held a number of local offices, in 1838-40 being Representative in the Eleventh General Assembly, of which Abraham Lincoln was a member. Of four children of the family of James McWilliams, but two survive, John McWilliams of Odell, Ill., and David, the subject of this sketch.

The atmosphere in which David McWilliams was reared was calculated to develop his enterprising and progressive traits of character. Not the least of his early impressions fostered the idea of personal independence, and accordingly, at the age of fourteen years, he became an apprentice in the office of the Pittsfield (Pike County) "Free Press," becoming thus associated in a distant way with John G. Nicolay and John Hay, who later become the private secretaries and biographers of President Lincoln. In the printing office, Mr. McWilliams received the flattering and encouraging remuneration of ten cents a week, and board for two years, after which his ambition soared to the larger profit to be found in piloting a cargo of his father's lumber down the river to New Orleans on a flatboat. Thereafter he actively aided his father in the lumber business, eventually becoming manager of the same, and in the early '50s extended his educational training by a few months' attendance at Illinois College, in Jacksonville. At the age of twenty years, Mr. McWilliams came by train to Ottawa, thereafter journeying on horseback to Dwight, having stopped at night with the farmers along the way, the country then being in a primitive condition and only sparsely settled. Studying the soil and general prospects, Mr. McWilliams decided upon a mercantile venture, knowing that to be one of the fundamentals of all rising communi-

ties. After erecting a building twenty by thirty-two feet in dimensions, he put in a two thousand dollar stock, and this became the nucleus of a business which catered to the growing needs of the community for a period of forty years. Recognizing the need of its facilities, Mr. McWilliams eventually started a bank, to the management of which he gave his undivided attention upon retiring from the mercantile business. He was thus employed until January, 1906, when the present bank was organized, and in the meantime his success in merchandising, banking, lumbering, establishing and operating a drug and grocery store, as well as many other lines of business, rapidly increased his fortunes, enabling him to invest largely in unincumbered country property, until he became one of the largest land-owners and tax-payers in Livingston County. The faculty of accumulation which emphasized economy and wise investment have been conspicuous qualities in the success of Mr. McWilliams, and there are few industries in the town which directly or indirectly have not profited by his capacity and experience and his accurate judgment.

A man of far too versatile a mind to be content with the mere routine of business, Mr. McWilliams has reached out in a public spirited and enterprising manner, which has few equals and almost no superiors in the history of the city. In almost all projects for the betterment of general conditions he has for years taken the initiative, sparing neither time nor money for securing the best possible results for the greatest number of people. Not only did he start the first store, the first bank, and the first elevator, but assisted in building the first churches and schools. His charity has been boundless and invariably unostentatious, and he has contributed unstintingly to the encouragement of religious denominations, regardless of creed, notwithstanding his staunch support of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was one of the original organizers in Dwight. He has served as a lay delegate in several General Conferences of that denomination, as well as a delegate to the Ecumenical Council in London in 1881. The cause of education had no wiser or more generous supporter during the active life of this many sided citizen, and he has been one of the Trustees of the Northwestern University for the past twenty-five years, all of his children having graduated there save a daughter, Louise, who received her training in a seminary at Washington, D. C.

At no time has the large heart and generous nature of Mr. McWilliams been more clearly indicated than during the Civil War, when he provided liberally for the support of a number of families in order that fathers and sons might go to the front, although he himself was not a soldier. His political efforts have added brilliancy and State renown to a career seemingly already crowded with usefulness, yet in no capacities have the innate nobility and exceptional judgment of the man received more substantial confirmation. He was a delegate to the first Republican State Convention held at Bloom-

ton, Ill., May 29, 1856, held practically all of the offices in the county and city of Dwight, and attended many State and National Conventions. Although never a seeker of office, he served as Presidential Elector in the Presidential campaign of 1884 for his District, casting his vote for James G. Blaine for President.

At Griggsville, Ill., on December 2, 1856, Mr. McWilliams was united in marriage to Margaret Louise Weagly, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Weagly, natives of Hagerstown, Md., the former of whom was of English descent. Mrs. McWilliams, who died January 7, 1900, was a most devoted wife and mother, and earnest worker in the church, and an untiring laborer in behalf of charitable organizations. Of her six children, five are living, James having died in 1900. Edward, John P. and Charles David are represented elsewhere in this work; Nellie is a resident of Dwight; and Louise is the wife of Roy O. West, of Chicago, and mother of a daughter, Helen Louise.

Abandoning somewhat his strenuous business life in 1885, Mr. McWilliams set about enjoying the results of his toil, leaving his accustomed tasks in the hands of his capable and well trained sons. During that year he made an extensive tour in Europe about three months, and every two or three years since he has visited some out of the way place of the world, his last journey extending to Egypt and the Holy Land in 1898-99. The variety and extent of his interests have had among their largest compensations the making of splendid friendships, and he is on intimate terms with men of this country and Europe who stand high in politics, religion and philanthropy. His hospitable home in Dwight has witnessed the entertainment of prominent politicians, churchmen and scholars, and withal, his name is a synonym for all that is trustworthy and inspiring in public and private life.

McWILLIAMS, John, a veteran of the Civil War and banker, Odell, Livingston County, Ill., was born at Scotch Ridge, Belmont County, Ohio, January 15, 1832, a son of James and Margaret (Latimer) McWilliams, both natives of Belmont County, the former born in 1802 and the latter in 1800. The McWilliams family originally came from the Highlands of Scotland, Alexander McWilliams coming to America in 1775, and settling near Brownsville, Pa., whence he later removed to Belmont County, Ohio, where he died. He was a farmer, miller and distiller in business, and a Presbyterian in religious faith. His son, the father of the subject of this sketch, came from his native county in Ohio to Griggsville, Pike County, Ill., where in 1835 he first engaged in farming, later entering into the lumber business, in which he continued until 1862. In 1864 he organized the Griggsville National Bank, of which he was president up to the time of his death in 1885. He was a Republican in politics after the organization of that party, and served as Representative in the Eleventh General Assembly from the Pike County District (1838-40), Abraham Lincoln being a member of the same

body, later acting in co-operation with the Republican party, of which he was a member from its organization in 1856. During his residence in Pike County, at different periods he filled most of the local offices. His religious associations were with the Congregational Church.

John McWilliams received his early education in the district schools at Griggsville, later spending two terms in the public school at Jacksonville. In 1849, at the age of seventeen years, he crossed the plains accompanying a caravan of ox-teams and prairie schooners to California, the journey occupying a period of six months. Game was abundant on the way and the party met numerous tribes of Indians, but encountered no serious trouble as there were one hundred well-armed men in the party. After spending four years engaged in gold mining with favorable results near Shasta and other points in Northern California, and later in Southern Oregon, Mr. McWilliams returned to his home at Griggsville, Ill., and there engaged in the lumber trade in connection with his father, in which he continued until 1861. This being the period of the beginning of the Civil War, he responded to the first call for troops by enlisting in Company G, Eighth Illinois Volunteers, under command of Col. Richard J. Oglesby, for three months' service, this being the second regiment mustered into service in Illinois. Returning home at the termination of his period of enlistment, in the spring of 1862, he removed to Dwight, Ill., there engaging in the lumber and grain business for three months, when he answered President Lincoln's third call for 300,000 volunteers, by enlisting in Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry (Col. G. P. Smith's command) which was organized at Pontiac, Ill., and mustered in September 8, 1862, for three years' service. The first move of the regiment was to Louisville, Ky., where Mr. McWilliams was promoted to Regimental Quartermaster and Commissary of Subsistence. His first active war experience was in the celebrated march from Louisville to Perryville, Ky., to meet the raid of the rebel Gen. Bragg, the regiment reaching Bowling Green, Mitchellsville and other points in Central and Southern Kentucky. Previous to May, 1864, the regiment was engaged chiefly in garrison duty as a part of the First Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Army Corps, under command of Gen. Hooker, later taking part in Sherman's Atlanta Campaign, including the battles of Resaca, Buzzard's Roost, Lost Mountain and Peach Tree Creek, and constituting a part of the advance guard in the capture of Atlanta. In November of the same year the regiment started with Sherman on his famous "March to the Sea," taking part in the advance through Georgia and the Carolinas, and was at Goldsboro, N. C., when intelligence was received of the assassination of President Lincoln. Later the regiment continued its march by way of Raleigh, N. C., and Richmond, Va., to Washington, where it participated in the Grand Review which marked the close of the war, finally being mustered out at Washing-

ton, and receiving final pay and discharge at Chicago, June 10, 1865.

Then returning to his home at Odell, Mr. McWilliams entered into the general merchandise and lumber business, in which he continued until 1881, when in January of that year he organized the Bank of Odell, with which he has been identified to the present time. In the meantime he has been extensively engaged in real estate business, at the present time being the owner of lands in Illinois, Indiana, the Dakotas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and California, besides various other business interests.

Mr. McWilliams has been twice married, first, on March 4, 1857, to Mary Dana, of Dixon, Ill., who died in 1871, leaving one daughter, Gracia, now the wife of Dr. Charles M. Oughton of 5410 Jefferson Avenue, Chicago. Mr. McWilliams' second marriage occurred April 19, 1873, when he was united to Clara E. Dana, sister of his first wife, and of this union there have been three children, namely: Elizabeth, wife of Eugene L. Paterson, of St. Paul, Minn.; Anne, who is at home, and John, Jr., who is assisting his father in banking and other business interests.

In National and State politics, Mr. McWilliams acts in co-operation with the Republican party, but in local affairs supports what he believes to be the men and the measures, best qualified to conserve the public interests. He has held numerous local offices, but has not been a seeker of political preferment and makes no distinction in his social and friendly relations on account of religion, politics or nativity. In his religious views he is liberal and has assisted in the building of churches of all denominations in his locality, and is also a zealous champion of the cause of popular education. Robust in constitution, erect in physique and of dignified soldierly bearing, he is of genial temperament and charitable in his treatment of the needy and unfortunate. As a patriotic citizen and successful business man, and devoted to the interests of home and family ties, Mr. McWilliams enjoys an extensive acquaintance and his home is the center of a large circle of friends.

McWILLIAMS, John Pollard.—The name of McWilliams is one well known in the vicinity of Dwight, Livingston County, during the earlier days, coming into prominence through the achievements of David McWilliams, who gave to the citizens of Dwight one of the garden spots of the town known as Renfrew Park, comprising twenty acres. This son of David McWilliams also became a large property owner in this locality. The third to represent the name was John P. McWilliams, who was born in Dwight, August 27, 1862, and who in the intervening years has sustained and added luster to a name already well known through the accomplishments of his father and grandfather. Following his graduation from the high school of Dwight in 1881, he took up a scientific course and a course in surveying in Northwestern University at Evanston. Putting to practice the knowledge gained dur-



Julian W. Zimm M.D.

ing his university course he went to California and for a year was engaged in surveying. At the end of this time he returned to Illinois and for one year filled the position of bookkeeper in the Bank of Dwight, relinquishing this position to become general manager of his father's large holdings. The improvement, draining and tiling of 8,000 acres of land was a large undertaking, but Mr. McWilliams proved himself equal to the task, as may be seen in the fine appearance of the property under his control.

The undertaking just mentioned does not represent all that Mr. McWilliams has accomplished since devoting his time and attention to real estate matters. In 1891 he made an addition of twenty acres to Dwight, from which he sold \$10,000 worth of lots in ninety days, at the same time selling other village property to the same amount. No less ambitious were his efforts given toward the development of Renfrew Park, which, as stated, was the gift of his father to the citizens of Dwight. Eight years were required in the laying out and beautifying of this tract, which is now classed among the attractions of the town, and Mr. McWilliams may well take pride in the fact that he was instrumental in bringing about these conditions. The land included in Renfrew Park was formerly a part of Renfrew Lodge, where the Prince of Wales made his headquarters during his visit to Dwight in 1860.

During his university days Mr. McWilliams formed the acquaintance of Harriet A. Kimball, a native of Black River Falls, Wis., and in February of 1898 they were united in marriage. After her graduation Miss Kimball became an instructor in French and English in her alma mater (Northwestern University), a position which she filled creditably until her marriage. Both Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Dwight, and are workers in all departments of its activity. Mr. McWilliams has served as a member of Board of Trustees, and was a member of the Building Committee at the time of the erection of the church and parsonage, and is Vice-President of The Bank of Dwight. Politically, he is an advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

MEENEN, Edward.—Perhaps no class of people are so independent of all others as the farmers, for living upon their own lands, raising their own food, and, if necessary, raising the material for their own clothing, they can well hold themselves aloof from the outside world and be a law unto themselves. However, few care to do this, but work in accord with those whom fate has placed in the less congenial atmosphere of city life, for the betterment of existing conditions and the advancement of a higher order of civilization. Among the public-spirited and representative men of Pleasant Ridge Township, Edward Meenen, residing on Section 29, occupies a place of his own in the confidence of his community, and although in the very prime of life,

has accumulated a very comfortable fortune through industry and thrift.

Mr. Meenen was born on the farm he now occupies, April 15, 1868, and until he was eighteen years of age followed the usual custom among farmer boys, attending school in the winter and working on the farm in summer. When he reached that age, he closed his school life and thereafter did a man's work. The district he attended is now No. 207, but the little school building was the first erected in the Township, and he has pleasant recollections of the days he spent in it.

Remaining upon the homestead until 1896, he then began farming on his own account, renting a farm of 320 acres and operating it for five years very successfully. Continuing thus until 1901, in that year he returned to his old home and took charge of the 160-acre farm, buying the eighty acres adjoining it on the north, and for two years conducted the entire 240 acres on Section 29. This he improved, and since 1901 has owned this eighty acres, all of his land being in a high state of cultivation. His buildings are all well kept and supplied with modern conveniences. The farm is well stocked, Mr. Meenen carrying Short-horn cattle and Norman horses, and as he thoroughly understands his business, he is making a success of his work and steadily adding to his possessions.

On January 24, 1895, Mr. Meenen married Miss Anna Frieden, a native of Germany, who was brought to America by her parents when a child of three or four years. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Meenen, one of whom died at the age of two and a half years. Those surviving are: Gracie, born February 9, 1898, and Mitchell, born December 27, 1901.

Mr. Meenen is School Director of District No. 207, but does not aspire for political honors, without connecting himself with any party, preferring to vote for the man best fitted for the office in question. In religious belief he is a Lutheran, while his wife is a member of the Evangelical church, and both are active in religious work. At their pleasant home Mr. and Mrs. Meenen dispense a charming hospitality and have many friends, not only in their Township but throughout the entire county.

MEENEN, Michael (deceased), one of the honored pioneers of Livingston County, and a man who enjoyed in the highest degree the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens, was born at Marx-Ostfriesland, Germany, February 9, 1833, and he married in his native land, on November 7, 1856, Catherine Tholen. On the 15th of that same month the young couple left on a sailing-vessel for the United States, but as the boat became disabled during the voyage, it was May of the following year before they landed in New York. From that city they came direct to Illinois, settling first at Peoria, where for six months Mr. Meenen worked as a common laborer, never scorning a chance to earn an honest penny. In the fall of 1857 he rented a farm in Woodford

County and conducted it until 1862, when he settled in Livingston County, purchasing eighty acres on Section 29, Pleasant Ridge Township. Later he bought eighty acres from H. J. Meenen, adjoining his first farm. This land was all uncultivated, the greater portion being prairie, and the only improvement a small home. Resolutely he set to work, tiling his 160-acre farm, beginning on the low land and gradually tiled it out until he made his property one of the most valuable in the Township. Mr. Meenen paid \$18 per acre for his first eighty acres and lived to see it increase in value until he refused \$100 an acre for it. All of the shade, fruit and ornamental trees on the farm were planted by him. He erected a substantial house, a large barn and substantial outbuildings, and put up good fences dividing his acres.

Mr. Meenen was a public-spirited man, and was always ready to encourage with money and work the erection of churches and school houses, recognizing that no community can advance without these two very necessary adjuncts to civilization and morality. For many years he served as School Director of District No. 207 formerly No. 1, which had the first school house in the Township. Indeed, he held this office until he felt he was no longer called upon to give any more of his attention to the duties pertaining to it and positively refused re-nomination. With his wife, Mr. Meenen was a devout member of the Lutheran church, and was one of its most liberal contributors. Originally a Democrat, he became more liberal in his political views as he grew older, and finally cast his vote for the man he thought best fitted for the office in question. Genial, kind-hearted and entertaining, Mr. Meenen made many friends and, when in 1900 he left his farm to build a handsome residence in Fairbury, he was followed by many regrets from those who knew how he would be missed. There, however, on Maple Street, in Fairbury he lived very happily until his death on June 11, 1908, and probably no man has been more sincerely mourned by the people of Livingston County than this honest, generous, kindly German-American, Michael Meenen.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Meenen were: three who died in infancy; Lizzie, who died at the age of three years; Lena, who married John Metz, a farmer of Pleasant Ridge Township; Maggie, who married Lewis Metz, of Pleasant Ridge Township; Johanna, who married William Metz, a farmer of Pleasant Ridge Township. Edward and John, farmers on the old homestead; Mary, who married Amos Metz, and is now deceased.

METTE, Herman F., a favorably known, highly respected and prosperous merchant, of Flanagan, Ill., and long a prominent factor in the local affairs of the community, was born in McLean County, Ill., February 28, 1862, a son of Frederick F. and Anna (Meyer) Mette, natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1859 and, continuing on to Illinois, settled on a farm in Bloomington Township, McLean County. In

1867 they moved to Livingston County, locating on another farm in Nebraska Township, two miles and a half north of the village of Flanagan. The father conducted the first hotel in Flanagan, which he bought in 1880. There he died in January, 1886, the mother following him to the grave in June of the same year. Their family consisted of three sons and five daughters, all of whom are living. Politically, Frederick F. Mette was a Republican. In religious faith he and his wife were Lutherans. Herman F. Mette was reared on the home farm and received his education in the common schools. For a time he applied himself to farm work. Accompanying his parents to Flanagan in 1880, he was employed for a considerable period as clerk in a store, and, in October, 1888, engaged in the mercantile trade. In this line he has continued ever since with uniform success. He is a man of good business qualifications, and his diligent attention to the affairs of his store, together with an invariably courteous demeanor towards all, and fair and equitable dealing in every transaction, has gained for him the confidence and good will of his patrons and the esteem of all classes in the community.

On May 28, 1890, Mr. Mette was married to Anna L. Edmondson, born in Kentucky, whose parents came to Livingston County at an early period. The father and mother of Mrs. Mette died in McLean County. Mr. and Mrs. Mette have four children, namely: Inez, a student in the Flanagan High School; Welda, Vida, and Helen.

In politics, Mr. Mette is an earnest Republican and wields a strong influence in the local councils of his party. He has served successively as Village Treasurer, Village Clerk and Township Clerk, and held the office of Supervisor five years. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masons and Knights of Pythias. He and his family are members of the Christian church.

MIDDLETON, Alonzo Bolen, B. S., M. D.—The highest achievements in any profession come only to those who are constant students. Particularly is this true of the medical profession, which, in modern times, has passed from the realm of the empirical into that of scientific accuracy, the discoveries of the present displacing the theories of the past. No one has been a more constant student of materia medica than Dr. Middleton, who by no means ceased his studies with the acquisition of his degree of Doctor of Medicine, but regarded his graduation as the beginning, not the end, of his studies. Since then he has availed himself of every opportunity to increase his professional knowledge, and has had the advantage of lectures in the best colleges and hospitals of our own country as well as abroad. Ten years have passed since in 1898 he established himself in practice at Pontiac, and since then he has enjoyed a growing patronage in his home city, where he has a reputation for superior knowledge and professional skill. Born at Lynnville, Ill., January 3, 1876, Dr. Middleton is a son of Jonathan and Maria Coats

(Ranson) Middleton, the former a Civil War veteran who served on guard duty at Rock Island during the entire period of his service. The son was born on a farm and remained there until sixteen years of age, when his father removed to Perry Springs, a summer resort in Pike County. Primarily educated at Lynnville, he later attended the Baptist college at LaGrange, Mo., from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1895. Later he matriculated in the Barnes Medical College at St. Louis, Mo., and this institution conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1898. Meanwhile he had been an interne in the St. Louis City Hospital. During May of 1898 he came to Pontiac, and in 1899 during the Philippine War, he served as assistant recruiting surgeon.

Desiring to avail himself of the superior professional advantages offered on the continent, in 1900, Dr. Middleton went to Germany and took a course of lectures in the university at Berlin, from which in 1901 he received the degree of M. D. During his studies abroad he received an appointment from Governor Yates as physician to the Illinois State Reformatory. During 1902-'03 he served on the City Board of Health under Mayor Legg. In 1907 he was appointed physician and surgeon in charge of the new county hospital under General Manager N. J. Meyr. During the same year he also received the appointment of city physician and county jail surgeon by Supervisor John Hoover. With his characteristic ambition to keep abreast with the latest advances made in therapeutics, in the winters of 1906-07 he went to Chicago, where he attended lectures at the Rush Medical College. In the winter of 1907-08 he was a student and an assistant instructor in the eye and ear department of the Northwestern University Medical College, of Chicago. March 1, 1909, he was appointed assistant to Surgeons Lawson, Marshall and Parsons in the out-patient department (Moorfields Clinic) of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, London, England, which position he filled for one year.

The political affiliations of Dr. Middleton are with the Republican party. In religion he is of the Baptist faith. Fraternally he holds membership with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage took place in Pontiac September 10, 1902, and united him with Lillian Pearl Erfft, daughter of G. H. Erfft, of that city. They are the parents of two children, Jonathan Erfft Middleton and Anna Maria Middleton. In addition to his private practice and his hospital work, Dr. Middleton has been chosen Medical Examiner for many societies, among them being the Knights of Macabees, Ladies of Maccabees, Ben Hur, North American Union, Court of Honor, Mystic Workers, Royal Neighbors, Fraternal Tribune, Yeoman of America, Modern Woodmen, Northwestern, and Aetna Insurance Company. The Doctor is also a member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Society, the North

Central Illinois Medical Society, and the Livingston County Medical Society.

MILLER, Claude R., a very capable and enterprising young business man of Pontiac, Ill., who is well and favorably known as the proprietor of a flourishing carriage-repair concern, and as a dealer in carriages, wagons, etc., was born in Stewardson, Shelby County, Ill., April 14, 1882. He is a son of Obadiah D. and Rachel R. (Reber) Miller, the father born in the vicinity of Shelbyville, Ill., and the mother, near Stewardson. Obadiah D. Miller follows farming as a means of livelihood, and he and his wife had six children, of whom four are still living. Claude R. Miller attended the common schools in his neighborhood, and was for some time a pupil in the Stewardson High School. He was brought up on the home farm, and for awhile had charge of the farming operations there. In 1900 he went to Chicago, and secured employment in the Staver Carriage Factory, soon assuming the management of its repair department. In September, 1906, he located in Pontiac, Ill., and bought the carriage and repair business of M. Dolde & Son, which he has since continued to conduct in a successful manner. The business is located on the corner of Madison and Plum Streets, in the building owned by M. Dolde & Son. Mr. Miller keeps a good stock of wagons, carriages and other vehicles, and does general repair work in this line. The volume of his transactions reaches about \$25,000 per annum.

On June 13, 1904, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Bertha E. Dicken, who was born at Ottawa, Ill., and is a daughter of James and Thankful (Izola) Dicken, both natives of Illinois, her father having been born in Ottawa, and her mother at Long Point. The paternal grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of Ottawa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Miller was born October 14, 1907, a son, Claude Raymond.

In the matter of politics, Mr. Miller gives his support to the Republican party, and he and his amiable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In social circles, Mr. Miller is affiliated with the Fraternal Tribune. He is well liked in his new surroundings, and his business prospects are extremely encouraging, the sterling qualities which he brings to bear in his work furnishing ample assurance of success.

MILLER, Dean M.—A man domestic in his tastes, a lover of home and family, who as a business man and farmer was thorough in his undertakings, frank and open in his dealings with his neighbors, and kind to his employes, a man of strict integrity and high-mindedness of purpose, Dean M. Miller is truly a representative of all that is best in the American citizen. He was born on the farm where he now resides on Section 8, Long Point Township, June 23, 1882, a son of Merritt W. and Florence (Allen) Miller. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of the same State. She was brought to Livingston County by her parents, and her father, William A. Allen, became very prominent

in this locality. Merritt M. Miller came with his father, J. Wesley Miller, in 1854, and they settled in Long Point Township. They took possession of the first house built in the county by Andrew McDowell and Jerry McDowell, and it is still standing on the farm, although the present commodious brick residence was the first of its kind erected in the County, and in pioneer days was used as a tavern on the State road between Bloomington and Ottawa, Ill. In early days it was known as the Halfway House. Here Dean M. Miller's grandfather and great-grandfather died, the latter being Jeremiah Miller and the former J. Wesley Miller. They were among the very first settlers of the Township and were worthy citizens.

Merritt W. Miller was only seven when he was brought to the county, and here he was reared and educated, the school being held in the Miller tavern. In time Merritt W. Miller became a large landowner and a prominent man. Always active in politics, in 1884 he embraced the principles of the Prohibition party voting for John St. John for Presidency, and since then has been a member of that party. Until 1905 he remained in Livingston County, where he owns 720 acres of excellent farming land, but in that year he moved to Los Angeles, and settled near that city where he owns 375 acres, making a total acreage of 1,095 which he still owns, and on which he is now living. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have had children as follows: Herbert A., on the farm in Reading Township; Lee W., a successful farmer in Eagle Township, LaSalle County; Dean M.; Glenn and Helen, both with their parents in California. Mrs. Miller is a devout member of the Christian Church, to which Mr. Miller liberally contributes, although not a member.

Dean M. Miller was reared on the farm where he was born, and attended the district schools, afterwards taking a commercial course in the commercial department of the Valparaiso (Ind.) Normal School, from which he was graduated with the Class of 1902. His life has been spent on the farm, of which, with his brother Lee, he took charge in 1904. This property consists of 350 acres of as good land as can be found in the county. On May 20, 1908, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Madge Long, a native of Amity Township, and daughter of Joseph Long, one of the pioneers of this locality. After his marriage Mr. Miller assumed sole charge of the property, and Lee went to the farm in Eagle Township, LaSalle County. Mr. Miller is a practical farmer and stock-raiser, and makes a specialty of registered Holstein cattle, the Southdown sheep and a high grade of hogs. Politically he has followed the teachings of his father, and is one of the strongest supporters of the Prohibition party. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Christian Church, and their family is one of the most representative, for five generations having made Livingston County their home without the suggestion of dishonor or reproach to their name.

MILLER, Gustave H., a well known citizen of

Pontiac, Ill., where he has been engaged in the plumbing business since 1896, with uniform success, was born in Syracuse, N. Y., April 5, 1873, and is a son of Jacob and (Emma) Miller, natives of Germany, where the father was born in 1834. Nicholas Miller, the paternal grandfather, also a German by nativity, came to the United States, and ultimately became a resident of Topeka, Kan., where he died at the age of eighty-one years. On coming to this country Jacob Miller and his wife first located in Syracuse, N. Y., and thence moved to Cleveland, Ohio. By trade he is a stair-builder and fine wood worker, making fancy mantels, etc. He has lived in various places, his present home being in Topeka, Kan., where he located after his wife died. She passed away in Cleveland, leaving two sons and one daughter. Jacob Miller married again, the maiden name of his second wife being Henrietta Leibkert, by whom he has three children. In politics, he is a Democrat and, in religious faith, a Lutheran, as was the mother of the subject of this sketch.

Gustave H. Miller was reared in Topeka, Kan., and there received his education in the public schools, afterward beginning to learn the trade of a plumber. In 1888, he went to Omaha, Neb., where he finished learning his trade. Then he spent a short time in St. Louis, and lived for awhile in Decatur, Ill., going thence to Bloomington, Ill., and in 1893 locating permanently in Pontiac. In 1896 he established himself in the plumbing business, in which he has prospered from the outset, and now commands a large patronage. He owns his business place on West Madison Street, as well as a fine residence, and other property in the city.

On June 27, 1898, Mr. Miller was married to Cora May Redman, born in Pontiac, Ill., and a daughter of Henry W. and Margaret Josephine (Cook) Redman. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one child, Margaret Josephine, born June 20, 1905.

Politically, Mr. Miller is a Republican. Fraternally, he belongs to Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M.; Pontiac Chapter, No. 215, R. A. M.; St. Paul Commandery, No. 34, K. T. of Fairbury, Ill.; Peoria Consistory, and Mohammedan Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Peoria. He is affiliated with Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, I. O. O. F.; and the B. P. O. E., No. 1019, of Pontiac. He is also a member of the German Benevolent Societies. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

MILLER, Philip E., numbered among the pioneers of Livingston County and for years one of the honored residents of Dwight, Mr. Miller was wont to narrate incidents connected with his arrival in his present home city, April 18, 1857, when he found a small village surrounded by roads so muddy as to be almost impassable. There was nothing about the town to indicate its future prosperity, nor did the near-by farms give evidence of their remarkable fertility. However, he was sufficiently impressed by the country to establish a home here and for some time acted as agent of a farm of several hundred acres

owned by Mr. Spencer. During this period of his life he had the pleasure of seeing the then Prince of Wales (now King Edward VII.), who, during his visit to the United States in 1860, was entertained at the place where Mr. Miller lived.

Referring to the personal history of Philip E. Miller, we find that he was born at Beekman, Dutchess County, N. Y., April 17, 1821, and was a son of Nathan Miller, likewise a native of New York. In boyhood he attended a boarding school in his home town. After completing his studies he took up general farming and in addition bought and sold stock. After his marriage in 1853 he removed to Fairfax County, Va., settling on a farm where he remained for three years, when he came to Illinois and settled near Dwight. During 1875 he purchased a house in Dwight, and also acquired several lots, on which he engaged in the raising of small fruits. He was interested in horticulture and very successful in such work, to which he gave his attention until his death, November 1, 1903. During early manhood he was a trustee in the Presbyterian church, but in 1861 he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for years afterward served as a trustee of that congregation. In politics he maintained a deep interest and always voted the Republican ticket, but was averse to office-holding and could not be prevailed upon to accept official honors.

The marriage of Mr. Miller took place at Fishkill, N. Y., March 2, 1853, and united him with Catherine Flagler, who was born January 20, 1832. She was one of four children now living, the others being as follows: George Z., of Dwight, Ill.; Albert, of Dutchess County, N. Y., now holding the responsible position of Superintendent of the Vassar College farm of fourteen hundred acres; and Annie, living in Rochester, N. Y. The father of this family was Philip S. Flagler, who was born in England, and came to the United States with his parents, Zachariah and Catherine (Collins) Flagler. Settling in New York, he married Nancy Dygert, a native of Herkimer County, that state, and a daughter of William and Catherine Dygert, who were born, reared and married in Germany, thence crossing the ocean to New York and settling in Dutchess County. For years he carried on a bakery and also kept a grocery store on the Erie Canal. For many years Philip S. Flagler followed the trade of a shoemaker, but later he learned the butcher's trade and followed the same. Eventually he purchased and occupied a farm in Dutchess County, N. Y., and thence moved to Rochester, where he died about 1878. He had long survived his wife, who passed away December 10, 1853, and who was buried in Dutchess County. Since the death of Mr. Miller his widow has continued at the old home in Dwight, and has a large circle of warm friends in his home city. Her only son, Ely T., who was born December 29, 1853, is a bookkeeper and makes his home in Pasadena, Cal.

MILLIGAN, Frederick T., well known in Fairbury, Ill., as manager of the furniture and un-

dertaking department of Walton Brothers & Co., was born in De Witt County, Ill., September 1, 1875, a son of Thomas and Mary (Evans) Milligan, natives of Bellefontaine, Ohio. His parents came to Illinois in the spring of 1875, locating in De Witt County, the father being a farmer by occupation. He carried on farming there until 1903, when he moved to Clinton, Ill., retiring from active pursuits. During the Civil War he served as a Corporal from 1861 to 1865 in the Eighty-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being with the regiment in all its long marches and hard-fought battles. To him and his wife were born six sons and two daughters, of whom one son died in infancy. Those surviving are: Jennie, Della, William, Frederick T., Edward, Drew, and Curtis. Charlie died in infancy. Jennie Milligan married Daniel Boone, a successful builder of Clinton, Ill., who also deals in monuments, etc.; Della is the wife of John Pettijohn, a business man of Kenney, Ill.; William is a retired farmer of Weldon, Ill., and the others are at home.

Frederick T. Milligan was reared on the home farm in De Witt County, receiving his education in the district schools, and assisting his father until he reached the age of twenty years. On December 24, 1896, he was married to Jennie Miles, born in Champaign County, a daughter of James V. Miles. James V. Miles, in 1859, when single, came from Virginia, his native State, he and his future wife being brought by their respective parents to Piatt County, where their marriage took place. Thence in course of time the father removed to Champaign County, where he bought a farm, subsequently making his home with the subject of this sketch. His family consisted of four children, two of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Milligan has a brother, James, who is a resident of Decatur. Their mother died in 1884. Soon after his marriage Mr. Milligan rented a farm in De Witt County, Ill., following farming and stock-raising until 1900, when he moved to Clinton and there bought a transfer line. In 1901 he sold out and worked a short time as clerk in a grocery store, afterwards securing a position as assistant foreman of a construction gang on the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1902 he obtained a situation in a furniture and undertaking establishment, under an experienced undertaker. He then began the study of embalming, entering, in 1904, the Carl Barns School of Anatomy, Sanitary Science and Embalming, one of the leading institutions of the State in this line. During his two years there he was a close student, and on January 1, 1905, he received a license to practice his chosen profession. Returning to Clinton he took charge of the undertaking department of Colwell & Jones, filling this position until February 1, 1907, when he assumed the management of the furniture and undertaking branches of the large store of the Walton Brothers Company, at Fairbury. Under the supervision of Mr. Milligan, the extensive stock of the concern along these lines is kept in fine condition. His department alone constitutes a large store, carrying a stock of \$15,000. To the

details of this task he gives his undivided attention, and he has already increased the furniture trade considerably. For the undertaking work the establishment maintains a superb hearse and a complete funeral equipment. As a funeral director, Mr. Milligan is efficient, discreet and painstaking, and under his care the bereaved patrons of the company receive most kindly attention.

Mr. and Mrs. Milligan have three children, namely: Marie, born in DeWitt County, December 3, 1897; Beryl, born June 22, 1903, in Clinton, Ill., and Carl, born August 21, 1905.

Mrs. Milligan is also a graduate of the Carl L. Barns College of Anatomy, Sanitary Science and Embalming. She holds a state license as an embalmer, and assists her husband in his work. They have made many friends in Fairbury, and are highly esteemed by all who know them in a social way.

Fraternally, Mr. Milligan is affiliated with the I. O. O. F., Livingston Lodge No. 490, and Clinton Encampment No. 182, of the Loyal American League.

MINEARD, Charles H.—The men of Illinois are experienced farmers, intelligent, trained in western agriculture, good citizens, the thrifty, progressive sons of men who turned the raw prairies into an agricultural empire, and who now are wisely controlling that empire. Among those who have thus succeeded is Charles H. Mineard, on Section 9, Long Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., who was born on the farm he now owns, September 13, 1858, the son of John and Elizabeth Ann (Hall) Mineard. John Mineard was born in Upper Canada, November 20, 1828, and his wife, in Orange County, N. Y., January 30, 1818. In the early '40s John Mineard came to Illinois and settled in LaSalle County with a half-brother, Levi. Here he bought a small tract of land. The maiden name of Mrs. Mineard was Marline. She married in New York a Mr. Hall, and with him came to LaSalle County, where he died, and later she married Mr. Mineard. Their marriage took place about 1844, and three of their children were born in LaSalle County. About 1852 Mr. Mineard made the overland trip to California, but returned in 1854, and sold his interests in LaSalle County. In 1855 he came to Livingston County and bought 160 acres on Section 9, Long Point Township. But little of the land had been broken, and the small building on it had only a canvas top, yet into it the little family moved, and there it was that Charles H. Mineard was born. Later another story was added to the house and, in its remodeled condition, the younger members of the family were born. They have five children: the first born died in infancy: Sophia (deceased), was the wife of Harmon Werner one of the prominent farmers of Long Point Township; Ira, a farmer of Washburn County, Wis.; Charles H., and Elizabeth, wife of a Mr. Spencer of Streator, Ill.

The father worked hard to build up a good

home, and cultivated his farm until 1877, when he bought 103½ acres on Section 10, Long Point Township, where his grandson now lives. He had by this time accumulated 458 acres of land in this Township, and for many years had been a successful farmer and stock-raiser. He was a lover of good horses, and was one of the first to introduce the Norman horses and Short-horn cattle in the township. He thoroughly understood how to take care of his stock and to breed fine cattle. Never with a moment to waste, he always was at work, no matter what the weather. He and Ezra Goldsmith owned "Sneezer, the Man Eater," a noted horse, which bit off the thumb of John Mineard on July 4, 1884, and finally became so vicious he had to be killed. In time Mr. Mineard felt the weight of his years; so he bought a comfortable home in Pontiac, and there lived retired at the time of his death, October 22, 1907. His wife had died in July, 1884. Both were earnest members of the Christian Church. In early life he was a Whig, but later became a staunch Republican, and was very active in the councils of the party. He was charitable and kind in disposition, and no one was ever turned away from his hospitable door. Strong in his likes and dislikes, he was one of the best and truest friends man ever had. The world is made better for the life of such a man, and he is remembered as a strong, true, loyal man, a good Christian and upright citizen.

Charles H. Mineard attended the district school and worked on the farm until he was twenty-one, when, on December 25, 1877, he was married to Alice Tullis, who was born in LaSalle County, a daughter of David Tullis, who died when she was only a baby. For the first year after their marriage the young people remained on the home farm, then in 1878, Mr. Mineard sub-let the farm on Section 10, Long Point Township, and a little later moved to an 80-acre farm on Section 7, Long Point Township, where he spent about two years, when he returned to his birthplace, and occupied the house in which he was born until 1890. In that year he moved the old house in the rear and erected a handsome, eleven room, two-story dwelling, supplied with all modern improvements. He has also built commodious barns and stables, and has one of the finest pieces of property in the entire township. He has accommodations for three carloads of cattle. Like his father he has become an extensive breeder and raiser of cattle. He now owns 160 acres of the original homestead, and has it all under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Mineard have two children: John H., Jr., born February 9, 1881, married Pearl Miller on March 14, 1901, who was born December 10, 1884, in Lacon, Ill., and they are farmers on Section 10, Long Point Township, have one child, Ruby, born April 21, 1908; Frank C., born January 6, 1883, died April 27, 1902. He was a fine young man and his parents have never fully recovered from the loss. Harry R., the youngest, was born April 3, 1891. The sons have become comforts to their parents and are young men of whom anyone would be proud. They were all given excel-

lent educations, and fitted to take charge of large interests.

For over half a century Mr. Mineard has been identified with the best interests of the county. He has taken an active part in the many great changes that have been effected since 1858. He has had the pleasure of seeing churches and school houses take the place of rude cabins, and wild paths widen into macadamized roads. For twelve years he has been a School Director, and for three years School Treasurer of the township, and has always been a staunch Republican. Socially he is a member of the Woodmen of America, Camp No. 1842, Long Point, of which he was one of the charter members. He and his sons are very prominent in their locality, and the success which has attended his career is well merited.

MITCHELL, Newton, Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born near Stavanger, Norway, February 2, 1825, and after a life of useful industry died at his home in Pontiac, December 15, 1905. His character was such as to commend him to all with whom he was associated, and in its individual traits he did not belie the high character of the stock from which he sprang. Much might be said for the Norwegian citizens of the United States, but wherever they live their character and achievements speak eloquently for themselves.

Mr. Mitchell's parents were Michael and Isabelle Mitchell. His father was a farmer in Norway until late in life, when he came to the United States with the intention of making a home in Livingston County, where he died two weeks after his arrival. Newton Mitchell came to Illinois by the way of Canada in 1855, voyaging across the ocean on an old fashioned sailing ship. Stopping in LaSalle County, Ill., he was employed there at farm work until his marriage. That event occurred March 8, 1862, when he married Lena Okland, who was born near Stavanger, Norway, September 1, 1843, a daughter of Gundar and Celia (Okland) Okland. Mrs. Mitchell's mother died in Norway and her father brought his family to Kane County, Ill., and thence to LaSalle County, where they lived until 1865, when they removed to Esmen Township, Livingston County. There Mr. Okland bought a farm, which he improved and on which he lived out the remainder of his days. He died in 1888, his second wife surviving him and, now about ninety-one years old, living at Roe, Ill.

Such education as Mr. Mitchell obtained he gained in the common schools in his native land. After his marriage, which was celebrated at Pontiac, he moved to Rook Creek Township, where he bought eighty acres of wild prairie land. Improving this farm, he managed it so successfully that he was enabled to buy more land until he owned 200 acres, eighty acres in Pontiac Township, the remainder in Rook Creek Township. In the fall of 1898 he moved to Pontiac, taking up his residence in a fine house on East Grove Street, which he had owned for

some years. His remains lie in the Lutheran cemetery near his old farm. He was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church, and was for many years trustee of the local body of that denomination with which he was identified.

The following items of information concerning Mr. Mitchell's children will doubtless be of interest in this connection: Isabelle is Mrs. Zach Handsom of Redcliff, Iowa; Gundar lives at Roe, Ill.; Sophia is Mrs. Martin Hatlestad, of Redcliff, Iowa; Moses A. lives on his father's old homestead; Lillian is Mrs. Martin Aygaran of Seneca, Ill.; Amelia is Mrs. Warren Gillham of Albert City, Iowa; Cora and Justin live at Pontiac.

MOATE, Arthur, a farmer residing on Section 5, Avoca Township, Livingston County, was born in Doncaster, England, February 14, 1864, a son of Anthony and Anne (Piper) Moate, who emigrated to the United States in 1872, locating in Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, in July of that year. In 1896 Anthony Moate bought a farm in Eppards Point Township, where he and his wife still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Moate were members of the Church of England, but upon locating in Livingston County, they identified themselves with the Methodist Church, and have been its loyal supporters ever since. Politically Mr. Moate has been a Republican since taking out his naturalization papers, and has been a good citizen and honorable man, who commands the respect of all who know him.

Arthur Moate had begun attending school before he left England and completed his education in the township schools, at the same time assisting his father on the farm, and remaining at home until he reached his majority. He then rented land in Rooks Creek Township, and lived there from 1885 to 1898, when he removed to Avoca Township and there purchased ninety-six acres of land on Sections 4 and 5. This land was unimproved, but he has made of it a good home and very productive farm.

On December 20, 1887, Mr. Moate married Miss Carrie Ethel Potter, born in Rooks Creek, Livingston County, Ill., October 12, 1865, a daughter of George W. and Agnes (Ball) Potter, natives of Illinois and Virginia, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Potter still reside in Rooks Creek Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Moate have one child, Florence M., born June 9, 1892, in Rooks Creek Township, a charming girl just budding into young womanhood. Like his father, Mr. Moate is a Republican and has several times been called upon to serve his people in elective offices, first as Road Commissioner in 1903, in 1906 was elected Supervisor of Avoca Township, in 1908 being again elected without opposition. He is serving his present term in order to meet the wishes of those who have carefully followed his excellent work as an official and are anxious that he have opportunity to carry out the improvements he has in hand. Mr. and Mrs. Moate are justly regarded as being among the leaders in their township. For the past six years Mr. Moate has been Republican County Central Committeeman for

Avoca Township, is recognized as a conscientious and faithful official, as well as good citizen and successful farmer.

MOORE, John M., a retired farmer, residing in Fairbury, Ill., and a man of high character and abundant financial resources, who has spent his whole life in Livingston County, where he is still an extensive landholder, having been long recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of his locality, was born in Indian Grove Township, February 3, 1852, a son of Richard and Perlina (Phillips) Moore, whose family history is given in full detail in a biographical record of Jonathan Glenn Moore, appearing in these pages. The family of the paternal grandfather, Jonathan Moore, consisted of eighteen children, of whom all but one grew to manhood and womanhood. Richard Moore settled in Livingston County in 1832, the arrival of but three others of the pioneer farmers having preceded his in Indian Grove Township. The maternal grandfather, Glenn Phillips, was a native of Alabama, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, enlisting from that State and dying in the service in 1814. After living some time with her five children, Grandmother Phillips went to Tennessee, whence she came to Illinois about the year 1833.

Four of her children were sons, and the only daughter became the wife of Richard Moore and the mother of the subject of this sketch. One of the brothers of Mrs. Richard Moore, named Andrew Bernard, was married to Lydie Raney, and lived in Livingston County in 1832. He was known as "Uncle Barney," and was a man of very amiable traits of character. He was the father of nine children, as follows: Zerilda, Dorinda, John R., Elizabeth, who married Thomas Davis and moved to Dorcas Island, on the Pacific coast, and there died; William Glenn; Perlina Salome, who died in early womanhood; James S., a resident of Hopedale, Ill.; Andrew Jackson, a farmer of Coffeen, Ill., and Nancy C., wife of Lewis Eads. John Rainey Phillips was the first white male child born in Livingston County. He remained at home until his enlistment in the One Hundred Twenty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, and died at Tullahoma, Tenn., while serving in that command. William Glenn Phillips was a member of the same regiment, and was honorably discharged after three years' service, being mustered out in Chicago. After returning to Illinois he followed farming and the milling business in Livingston County, finally moving to Pekin, Tazewell County, where he died May 1, 1908. The three other brothers of Mrs. Richard Moore were James, who died in Woodford County, Ill.; Albert, a resident of McLean County at the time of his death; and Calvin, who died at Neodesha, Kan.

John M. Moore is now the owner of the old Moore homestead on which he was born, and often dwells with fond recollection on the scenes of his boyhood and the joyful and sorrowful events that occurred there. The first of the family to leave the home circle was his sister, Elizabeth,

who became the wife of Martin Moore, and is now deceased, having passed away April 8, 1898. Melinda died July 19, 1871. Those who left home between that time and 1878 settled in the neighborhood of the homestead, not more than three miles from the place of their birth. James Moore moved to Fredonia, Kan., and the others were wont to gather about the old familiar fireside at Christmas time until after the death of their father and mother. Hannah Moore, who finally was left to care for her parents in their declining years, became the wife of Robert Spence, a son of one of the honored pioneers of Livingston County, but in less than nine months her husband passed away, and the widow, with her brother John, occupied the old home until April 2, 1907, being the last of the family to leave. All the others had previously moved to their own farms, and five of them are now residents of Fairbury. Among them are retained many relics of the homestead and souvenirs of the early days, such as a table and bedstead bought by the parents soon after their arrival in the county; a card, spools and weaver's reed; a camphor bottle more than a hundred and fifty years old, which belonged to the great-great-grandmother, Elizabeth Scroggs.

John M. Moore and his sister Hannah are blessed with an abundance of this world's goods, being the owners of an attractive residence in Fairbury and about 500 acres of land. For a long period, the former was one of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers in Livingston County, always taking a deep interest in whatever pertained to the public welfare. Mrs. Spence is an earnest adherent of the Christian Science faith, and is endeared to many friends by the amiable traits of her character. The family were reared, however, in accordance with the creed of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the old home being a favorite resort for the circuit riders of that denomination, where they were welcome guests.

Politically, Mr. Moore has long been identified with the Democratic party, but has been accustomed to regard the personal qualities of local candidates as more important than their partisan connections.

MOORE, Jonathan Glenn, for seventy-three years a resident of Livingston County, Ill., during nearly all of which long period he was one of the busiest, most reliable and most successful farmers of Indian Grove Township, and now living in comfortable and contented retirement in the City of Fairbury, was born in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, November 23, 1835. His father, Richard Moore, was born in Rutherford County, N. C., May 30, 1810, and the birth of his mother, Perlina (Phillips) Moore, took place October 12, 1828. The paternal grandparents, Jonathan and Sarah Moore, were born, respectively, August 9, 1787, and March 10, 1788. When a lad of about eight years, Richard was taken by his parents from North Carolina to Tennessee. The family settled in Overton County in the latter State, and there followed farming and milling,

Richard Moore assisting in both branches of the work until he attained his majority. He was also a tanner by trade. His marriage to Perlina Phillips took place in Overton County in 1828. He was one of a family of fifteen children, and became one of the thriftiest farmers of his locality. Jonathan Moore's first wife died in 1834, and in August, 1835, when forty-six years old, he married as his second wife, Elizabeth Harper. He had previously made a trip to Illinois, and was so favorably impressed with the attractions of the new country, that he returned with his new wife and settled at Indian Grove, Livingston County. His was among the earliest arrivals, Martin Darneß, who preceded him, having settled in the same vicinity in November, 1830. The second wife of Richard Moore died May 8, 1840, when thirty-eight years, two months and sixteen days old. His third wife was Nancy Hinthon, to whom he was married in 1841, and his death occurred in Indian Township six weeks after this marriage.

Richard Moore, father of Jonathan G., located in Twin Grove Township, Livingston County, and moved thence to Paint Creek Township, where he lived until 1843, then changing his location to Indian Grove Township, which has since been known as the first settlement in Livingston County. Indians were then frequently seen passing to and fro between their former camping grounds. Richard Moore built a log cabin on the spot which he had chosen, the land not having yet been broken. The prairie grass was as high as a man's head when mounted on horseback. On a part of tract where he settled the timber had been deadened by the Indians. After the survey was made the father entered the land at the Government Land Office, paying \$1.25 per acre. The old homestead is now the property of Philip Fleischer, his son-in-law, and a resident of Fairbury. At the time of his death, Richard Moore owned 185 acres, and had one of the best homes in the township. He was unfortunate in being afflicted with deafness, and was thereby prevented from engaging in conversation. Of a very charitable disposition, he was always ready to aid those deserving of confidence. He was a thorough farmer and a good citizen. Strongly attached to his home, he could always be found there in leisure hours. He was well informed on general topics, and previous to the loss of his hearing, was able to discuss current questions in public. He was permitted to witness the development of the county until the wild prairie was crowded with well cultivated farms and comfortable homes. He had visited the site of Chicago when but a single frame house was to be seen there. When the Black Hawk War broke out he took part in it and did his share towards driving Black Hawk from Illinois. During that conflict he drove an ox-team, hauling provisions for the soldiers, and was in Chicago when the Indian Treaty was made and when only one frame building stood within the stockade of Fort Dearborn.

For sixty-one years, Richard Moore made his home at Indian Grove, and was known to three

generations of its residents. He was an old fashioned Democrat but devoid of ambition for public office, and he and his good wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father died September 8, 1893, at the age of eighty-three years, three months and seven days. His widow passed away in 1898, when ninety-three years old, a victim of typhoid fever. She was born at Huntsville, Ala., in 1810. Their family consisted of eleven children one of whom died in infancy. Ten grew to maturity, their names being as follows: Elizabeth S., Sarepla Jane, Jonathan G., Sarah Ann Leah, Nancy Wright, Matilda Eunice, Mary Martha Cregg, Hannah A., James Richard, and John McCord. The eldest daughter, Elizabeth S. Moore, was born at Overton, Tenn., July 17, 1830. She married Martin Moore by whom she had two children. She died in Fairbury, Ill., in 1898, her husband having departed this life in 1866. Sarepla Jane Moore was born in Indian Grove Township, June 25, 1833, the first female child born in Livingston County. She married John D. Spence and they had ten children. Both parents are deceased. Sarah Ann Leah Moore was born at Indian Grove, March 6, 1838, and became the wife of Philip Fisher, a resident of Fairbury. Nancy Wright Moore was born in 1840, in the last mentioned locality, and in October, 1866, married Nathaniel Darnell. He died in June, 1898, and his widow lives in Fairbury. Matilda Eunice Moore was born July 9, 1842, and died July 19, 1871. Mary Martha Cregg Moore, born February 8, 1845, became the wife of Salvenus Conine on March 1, 1866, and their home is in Wichita, Kan. Hannah A. Moore, born February 3, 1847, was married October 14, 1866, to Robert Spence, who died July 7, 1867, she being a resident of Fairbury. James Richard Moore was born at Indian Grove, July 20, 1849, and is a farmer in Kansas, near Fredonia. John McCord Moore, a sketch of whose life appears in this connection, was born February 3, 1852, and is a retired farmer, living in Fairbury.

The entire life of Jonathan Glenn Moore has been spent in Indian Grove Township, where in early youth his education was received partly in the subscription and partly in the district schools. His boyhood days were passed like those of many others in the pioneer period of Illinois farming, and he began to drive when he was hardly tall enough to put on a harness. With other teams, he was accustomed to drive to Ottawa and other towns on the river, and often went with his father to Chicago, hauling sweet potatoes to peddle there, the sale consuming an entire day. They also hauled wheat to that market. Mr. Moore remained on the home farm until about the year 1865, when he bought forty acres of land in the same township. In 1862 he was married to Rosena Hight, and moved into a small story-and-a-half frame house which stood on the place, its dimensions being 16 by 28 feet. Mrs. Moore was born in Greene County, Pa., March 3, 1847. There her parents died and she was brought to Livingston County in 1860 with the family of William Bailey. Mr. Moore sold

his first forty acres in 1878, and purchased another farm consisting of 100 acres in Indian Grove Township, which was badly run down. After getting it into good shape, he disposed of it, buying 160 acres in the same township, which he developed into a beautiful home. Remaining there until 1904, he then rented the place and withdrew from active pursuits, having purchased a nice residence on South Second Street, in Fairbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore became the parents of one child, Ellen, born March 17, 1864, and now the wife of Alpheus Swaruse, a resident of Fairbury. Mr. Moore has been one of the most active workers in making Indian Grove Township what it is. Although taking a good citizen's interest in public affairs, he has kept aloof from office holding, having served, however, as School Director. He was formerly a supporter of the Democratic party, but of late years has cast his vote with the Prohibitionists, and exercised his influence in behalf of that cause, being a warm advocate of the temperance movement of 1908.

MORAN, Hon. John P., Representative in the Forty-third and Forty-fourth General Assemblies from the Sixteenth District, who for two terms ably represented his constituency and served on a number of important committees, was born in Fairbury, Ill., September 17, 1867, and he is a son of Patrick F. and Sarah (Carolin) Moran. Mr. Moran was educated in the common schools of Fairbury, and for some years was a coal miner, but having always taken an active part in the workings of the Democratic party he was selected as the candidate of that party from the Sixteenth District and elected by a large majority. He is very popular and has a bright future before him politically.

On July 17, 1900, Mr. Moran was married to Clara B. Cook, at Chatsworth, Ill., and they have one child living, Mary E. Moran, a bright little girl. Mr. and Mrs. Moran are connected with the Roman Catholic Church of Fairbury.

MORAN, William (deceased), for a long period one of the most diligent, upright and greatly respected citizens of Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1821, and in early youth attended school in his native country, afterward devoting his time to farm work until he was about twenty years old. In 1841 he crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel and, on landing in the United States, proceeded to Cincinnati, Ohio. One of his sisters, Mary, accompanied him to this country, and in course of time became the wife of John O'Malley, settling in Dwight, Ill., where she died, leaving two children. William Moran was a typical son of the Emerald Isle, having enjoyed few advantages in Old Erin, but being possessed of a shrewd mind and abundant energy. After locating in Cincinnati he found employment along the Ohio River for some time, working as a helper on boats and ashore until about the year 1858. Then he went to St. Louis, where on August 2, 1860, he took out his naturalization pa-

pers, becoming an adopted citizen of the United States.

At Cincinnati, in 1851, he was united in marriage with Mary Moran, also a native of County Mayo, Ireland, who with a girl companion came to this country the year of her husband's arrival, being the first one of her family to leave home. She was seven weeks on the voyage to this country, and in after years well remembered laughing and crying at intervals, as conflicting emotions moved her in contemplation of her past and future. Having acquaintances in Cincinnati she made her way to that city, and there met William Moran. Shortly after their marriage the young couple journeyed to the vicinity of St. Paul, Minn., while the Indians were still in that region. Mr. Moran took up a land claim near the site of the present city of St. Paul, but Mrs. Moran, becoming nervous on account of the solitude of the surroundings when her husband was working at a distance from their home, persuaded him to abandon the claim. Accordingly he and Patrick Moran, a cousin, who had also settled there, went with their wives to St. Louis about 1858, and Mr. Moran again began work on the river, freighting on boats. On the outbreak of the Civil War, he obtained a position in the Commissary Department of the Government storehouse, having charge of the work of issuing supplies. He remained in the Government employ until early in 1865, and then moved to Fairbury, buying a home in what is now the southwestern part of the city, there being then, however, but a few straggling houses in the vicinity. For a time he was employed in sinking shafts, and then secured work with the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad Company, continuing thus until he was obliged to abandon work by reason of old age. For forty-four years Mr. Moran was one of the most industrious and upright citizens of Fairbury, respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He was taken sick in November, 1907, and on December 1st, next following, his good wife was seized with the sickness that resulted in her death six days later. On being informed of her decease the devoted husband was overcome with grief, and quickly succumbed to his malady, surviving but thirty hours after the companion of his life had passed away. On November 9, both were laid in the same resting place. To them were born eight children, of whom but two are left. The first six died in early childhood, only one of them reaching the age of nine years. Those living are Frank J., who now owns the old home, and Thomas, the latter a resident of Colfax, Ill., and a miner by occupation. Both parents were devout members of the Catholic Church, living strictly in accordance with the requirements of their faith.

Frank J. Moran was born March 27, 1867, and in boyhood attended the public schools of Fairbury. At the age of fourteen years he went to work in the mines in the vicinity, being employed as check weigher, and assisting in the family support. This place he held seven years, after which, on May 6, 1896, he engaged in busi-

ness for himself, taking good care of his parents in their declining years. He was a successful merchant for twelve years, and since then has devoted his attention to other matters, being the owner of 320 acres of land in Kansas. He is a man of high character, and is much respected by all who know him.

In politics, he has always been an active Republican, but without political aspirations. He is a devoted member of the Catholic Church, having been carefully reared in that faith. Socially, he is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Pontiac Lodge, No. 1483.

MORRIS, Jephthah O., a well known and much respected farmer, whose home is in Section 8, Forrest Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Indian Grove Township, in the same county, April 11, 1848. His father, John O. Morris, was born in Columbia County, Pa., July 7, 1824, and died in Indian Grove Township, October 14, 1889, while his mother, Elizabeth (Trueman) Morris, was born in Shelby County, Ky., June 24, 1824, and died in April, 1895. John O. Morris moved from Pittsburg, Pa., to Champaign County, Ill., in 1844, locating on land now included in the corporate limits of the city of Urbana. His marriage with Elizabeth Trueman took place in Champaign County, March 12, 1846, and on November 27, 1847, he changed his location to Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, entering forty acres of government land, which he improved and continued to cultivate until the time of his death. He was one of the earliest pioneer settlers, and his wife in after years would often tell of the visit of the Indians to the old log home. Often when the children were playing, an arrow or ram-rod would push their playthings aside, and they would look up to see an old Indian buck grinning at them. This old log home was supplied with the old-fashioned fireplace, built of sticks and plastered with mud. The father would drive the hogs to market in Chicago, Bloomington and Ottawa, then being small trading towns. John O. Morris and his wife were the parents of these children: Jephthah O.; Sylvester P., whose biography appears elsewhere in this work; Sarah A. (Mrs. John Kidwell), a resident of Stanford, McLean County, Ill.; George W., whose death occurred in Indian Grove Township, in 1895, and John T., who died in infancy.

Jephthah O. Morris was reared to farm life, receiving his common-school education during the winter months in the old log schoolhouse in the vicinity of his home. When he reached the age of sixteen years, he commenced working on a farm, and after his marriage engaged in farming for himself on rented ground. In 1887, he bought eighty acres of land in Indian Grove Township, purchasing this property while working on the N. O. Darnell farm, on which he was employed sixteen years. Later he sold out, purchasing a farm in McLean County, and after passing nine years there, disposed of it, buying his present property, comprising eighty acres, in September, 1903. In 1908 he added eighty acres

more, and the whole property is now nicely improved. Its owner has always bought and fed cattle and hogs, and in this undertaking has realized satisfactory results. The early experiences of Mr. Morris in this region were those common in a very wild country. In his youthful days, he was familiar with the spectacle of all sorts of wild game and prowling beasts, deer and wild turkeys being plentiful, and wolves venturing up to the doors at night in quest of prey.

On June 29, 1871, Mr. Morris was united in marriage with Orilla Hogue, who was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1850, a daughter of David and Margaret (Mishioner) Hogue. The parents of Mrs. Morris came west to Illinois in 1855, locating first in Tazewell County, and moving to Livingston County in 1862, where her father followed farming a number of years. Then he settled on a farm in the vicinity of Bloomington, McLean County, and the remainder of his life was passed there. After his death his widow went to California, and in that state her death occurred. Their family consisted of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Morris became the parents of three children, namely: Lura Z., Dallas, O., and Don W.; Lura Z. married Noble B. Teal, a real-estate broker of Forrest, in 1899, and they occupy their own residence located in the same yard with her parents on the home farm one mile west, and one-quarter mile south of Forrest. Mr. and Mrs. Teal are the parents of two boys: Morris E. and Francis N. Dallas O. married Ella F. Corkhill, the eldest daughter of F. S. Corkhill, in 1908. He and his wife reside on his father's farm adjoining the village of Forrest. Don W. married Bertha L. Rudd, the only daughter of William H. Rudd, Sr., in 1908, and he and his wife live on a farm owned by Mr. Rudd in Forrest Township. In politics Mr. Morris has been identified with the Democratic party for many years, and has been prominent in local political affairs, having held the office of Township Assessor in 1906 and 1908.

MORRIS, Sylvester P., a very worthy, highly esteemed and prosperous farmer, living in Section 2, Forrest Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born August 7, 1850, in Champaign County, Ill., on farming land now constituting a portion of the city of Urbana. He is a son of John O. and Elizabeth (Trueman) Morris, the father a native of Columbia County, Pa., and the mother of Shelby County, Ky. Their marriage took place in Champaign County, Ill., March 12, 1846. The former was born July 7, 1824, and died in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County, October 14, 1889; and the latter, whose birth occurred June 24, 1824, passed away April 21, 1895. John O. Morris settled near the then small village of Urbana, Ill., in the year 1844, and on November 27, 1847, changed his location to Livingston County, acquiring from the Government forty acres of land. On this he made the requisite improvements, and followed farming there during the rest of his life. Four children were born to him and his wife, as follows: Jephthah O., of whom an extended sketch is presented elsewhere

in this connection; Sylvester P.; Sarah A. (Mrs. Kidwell), whose home is in Stanford, Ill., and George W., who died in 1895.

Sylvester P. Morris was two years of age when his parents settled in Indian Grove Township. His childhood and early youth were passed on his father's farm, and he obtained what education was possible, making the most of the opportunities for mental training afforded in the little, log-school house not far from his home. When he was eighteen year old he went out to work as a farm hand, and in early manhood, applied himself to farming on his own responsibility. Moving across the line into McLean County, Ill., he rented land for a year, and at the end of this period, bought eighty acres, on which he farmed eleven years. Selling this place, he located in Round Grove Township, purchasing 160 acres there, which he cultivated during the next nine years. Then, disposing of the property he bought his present farm containing 197 acres, taking possession in 1901. Since occupying it he has remodeled the buildings, and now has a finely improved farm. He has carved out his own fortune, making his way in the world through sheer determination to succeed, and his good qualities of head and heart have attracted to him many friends in Livingston County. He well remembers when parts of the County abounded in wild game of all kinds, and has seen many droves of deer. His recollection goes back to the time when wolves made night hideous with their howling, often stealing up to the very doors of the dwellings, to sniff the odor of the interior.

Mr. Morris was married in Indian Grove Township, December 29, 1875, to Rebecca E. Pate, who was born in Lexington, McLean County, Ill., November 21, 1856. Mrs. Morris is a daughter of John and Mary Ann (Hiltbrunner) Pate, early settlers of the above named township. Her father was born in Cambridgeshire, England, November 5, 1805, and her mother in Pennsylvania, September 21, 1824. They were married in Pennsylvania, October 23, 1837. Mr. Pate came to the United States at the age of 21 years, remaining in the East until 1846. In that year he journeyed with his wife to Lexington, McLean County, Ill., and after living there until 1867, moved to Indian Grove Township, where he bought land and followed farming up to the time of his death, March 10, 1892. His widow is still a resident of the same township. Fourteen children were born to their union, nine of whom are living, namely: Isaiah, of McCook, Neb.; John, whose home is Wauneta, Chautauqua County, Kan.; Jacob, who lives near Dorchester, Neb.; Charlie, of Sunshine, Col.; Rebecca E.; Lewis, of Shelbyville, Ill.; Clara, Mrs. Frank S. Corkhill, of Indian Grove Township; William, of Pontiac, Ill.; and Harvey of Mabton, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Morris are the parents of three children, namely: W. Everette; Clarence R.; and Floyd M., all of whom are at home.

In politics, Mr. Morris was formerly identified with the Democratic party, and has creditably filled the office of School Director of his Township. His religious connection is with the Evan-

gelical Church, and fraternally, he is affiliated with the K. O. T. G. and the K. O. T. M.

MORTIMORE, John Thurston, an extensive farmer in Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill., and one of the most prominent and useful citizens of his locality, was born in Putnam County, Ill., April 8, 1858, a son of Henry T. and Hannah J. (McMahon) Mortimore, the father a native of Devonshire, England, and the mother born in Rochester, New York. In 1844 the former came to the United States with his parents, John and Elizabeth (Taylor) Mortimore, who located in New Jersey. There the paternal grandparents spent their last days and were buried at Trenton. On the maternal side, the grandparents were Owen and Margaret (Smith) McMahon, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter born in Philadelphia. About the year 1836 they journeyed to Putnam County, Ill., settling in the vicinity of Hennepin, where they passed the remainder of their lives. The maternal great-grandmother was Hannah Jackson, a relative of Andrew Jackson. Her first husband was James Smith, who died in Philadelphia, and her second husband was Samuel Holmes. About the year 1835 they located in Putnam County, Ill., where both died. Mr. Holmes was one of the California gold-seekers of 1849. Henry T. Mortimore, father of John T., received his education in the public schools of England and on reaching maturity became a farmer by occupation. In 1857 he came to Illinois, and married Hannah J. McMahon, settling on a farm in Putnam County. In 1867 he moved to Livingston County and bought eighty acres of land at \$21 per acre. He is now living in retirement, at No. 304 East Howard Street, Pontiac, Ill., and has landed possessions in Livingston County, which comprise 480 acres, well improved and in a high state of cultivation. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist, and has served as Township Trustee. He and his wife are members of the Methodist-Episcopal Church. They reared four children, namely: John T., Frank M., a farmer living on the old homestead; Harry O., a commission merchant of Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Mary L. Snyder, of Chicago.

John T. Mortimore was brought up to farm life, and educated in the common schools and Lincoln University. He has always followed farming and stock raising, and owns 480 acres of land. He is known throughout the country as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses, and is recognized as one of its most prosperous and prominent farmers.

On February 3, 1886, Mr. Mortimore was married to Ida A. Hiltabrand, born in Putnam County, Ill., a daughter of John and Hannah J. (Worthington) Hiltabrand, both natives of that county, where the father was born in 1835 and her mother in 1841. The latter was a daughter of John and Mary Worthington, natives of England, who on arriving in the United States first located in New Jersey. Thence, about the year 1838, they journeyed to Illinois, settling in Putnam County, where their closing years were

spent. John C. Hiltabrand was a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Hayley) Hiltabrand, who settled in Putnam County in 1832, and passed the remainder of their lives there. The parents of Mrs. Mortimore had three daughters: Emma, (Mrs. John Hughes); Mary (Mrs. George Bashore); and Ida A. Mr. and Mrs. Mortimore have four children as follows: Myrta Jane, born May 20, 1887; Charles Ovid, born November 30, 1889; Wanda Elizabeth, born December 9, 1891, and Alice Isabel, born September 16, 1897. Myrta is a graduate of Pontiac Township High School with the class of 1906, and she and Charles O., are students at Mount Morris College. Wanda is now preparing for admission to the same institution.

In politics, Mr. Mortimore, is a Republican and has served as School Treasurer of his Township for eight years. He has held other township offices and was Supervisor for five years.

MOWRY, Francis M., has been a successful farmer in Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., for more than twenty years, and is a very enterprising and public-spirited member of the community. He is a native of Adams County, Ohio, where he was born April 13, 1842, a son of Jacob and Rachael (Setterfield) Mowry, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. Both had been taken to Adams County, Ohio, by their parents and there they grew up and were married. Jacob Mowry, who was a farmer by occupation, moved to Livingston County, Ill., in 1866, and in 1869 went to Pettis County, Mo., where he and his wife passed the closing years of their lives.

Francis M. Mowry first went to school in Adams County, Ohio, and continued his school studies in Pike County, in that State, where the family afterwards located. There he helped to operate the paternal farm until he started out in life for himself. He was married in that county, September 10, 1863, to Rebecca Parker, who was born there April 29, 1842, a daughter of Moses and Sarah (Davis) Parker. Mrs. Mowry's father was born on the farm where he spent his whole life. Eight children composed his family, six of whom are still living. Mr. Mowry remained in Pike County until 1864, when he moved to the vicinity of Lafayette, Ind., but on account of the fever and ague prevailing there, returned to Pike County in the following year. Mrs. Mowry's mother died in 1870, and in 1872 the family moved to Livingston County, Ill., locating on a farm, where they remained three years. In 1887, Mr. Mowry took charge of a stone quarry on shares owned by Samuel McCord. In 1888 he went to work for Frank Corkhill in McLean County, Ill., and in the fall of 1889, bought his present farm, which was wild land. Clearing the brush away, he built a house and barns, and generally improved the place. On this land he has raised all kinds of fruits, flowers and garden produce, and now has a comfortable and attractive home. He keeps a good grade of cattle and has some fine milch cows. In 1902 Mr. Mowry and his

son, James A., went into the threshing business, starting on a small scale. At present, they have the most up-to-date machinery for this work, and are very successful, covering as much area as any competitors in this part of the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Mowry became the parents of twelve children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are as follows: Clement L., a mail carrier in the rural free delivery service, traveling out of Fairbury; Cary, who married Tillie Sikes, and was killed in a coal shaft in 1889, leaving one child; Moses, who married Nora Dixon, a farmer in Pleasant Ridge Township; Victor, who died when nine months old; Sarah Ann, deceased, wife of Jacob Canan; Eli, an electrician, and manager of the electric light plant at Chatsworth, Ill.; Maggie, wife of Henry Brest, a farmer, near Odell, Ill.; Elwood, of Fairbury; James A. G., who is at home and has charge of the threshing outfit; Jennie, wife of Adam Barth, a resident of Fairbury; Hattie, wife of William R. Hertline, a partner in the threshing enterprise; and Benjamin, who died in 1890.

In politics, Mr. Mowry is an earnest supporter of the Prohibition Party, and for years has been on the County Central Committee of that organization, for Avoca Township. He is a zealous worker in the cause of total abstinence, and has always taken a deep interest in the Lincoln Chautauquas. His first convictions on this subject were formed in the days of his early experience in Ohio, when, as a boy, he took a place as clerk in a grocery store. The religious connection of Mr. and Mrs. Mowry is with the Free Methodist church, of Fairbury.

MOWRY, William Moses, for twenty-eight years prominently identified with the best interests of Livingston County, belongs to one of its well known families. His birth occurred in Pike County, Ohio, August 19, 1867, and he is a son of Francis M. Mowry, who moved with his family from Pike County, Ohio, in 1872, to Livingston County, Ill.

During his boyhood days William Moses Mowry, called Moses by his intimate friends, attended the public schools and assisted his father in farm work. For two years he had the advantages of attending school at Fairbury, but in 1888, when twenty-three years old, he began working by the month and cheerfully turned his wages over to his parents to provide for their necessities, until his marriage. This important event took place on October 3, 1891, when he was married to Miss Norna E. Dickson. The year following he removed to McLean County, but a year later, returning to Livingston County, worked on a farm in Avoca Township owned by John W. McDowell. In 1894 he rented a farm of 145 acres of G. Y. McDowell in the same Township, and he continued to rent this property until 1902. The next year he rented 160 acres of G. Y. McDowell in Pleasant Ridge Township, Section 6, where he still resides. This farm is well stocked with a good grade of cattle, horses and hogs, and the

entire property is kept in excellent condition. Mr. Mowry is very successful in his farming operations, and is regarded as an authority on agricultural matters.

Mrs. Mowry was born in Marshall County, Ill., and she is a daughter of Elias and Mary (Thompson) Dickson. When a small girl she was brought to Livingston County by her parents, and here in Avoca Township her mother died, her remains being buried in the cemetery at Fairbury. Her father is now a resident of Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. Mowry had two sisters and five brothers: John of Chicago; Joe a farmer of Avoca Township; Amos of Peoria, Ill.; Roy residing with Mrs. Mowry and Hattie, wife of Frank McCormick of Milwaukee, Wis.; Myrtle wife of Ross Day of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Mowry have two children: John C., born in Indian Grove Township, and Frederick L., born April 2, 1897. Fraternally Mr. Mowry belongs to Fairbury Camp No. 6, M. W. A. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and takes an active interest in local affairs.

Still a young man he has already proven what can be accomplished through hard work, persistent effort and conscientious action, and his future appears assured.

MURPHY, James, an extensive and prosperous farmer in Eastern Illinois, and since 1892 a prominent and influential citizen of Livingston County, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., September 26, 1858, a son of Michael and Bridget (O'Brien) Murphy, natives of Ireland, where the former was born in County Waterford, in June, 1824, and the latter, in County Tipperary, April 30, 1828. The paternal grandfather, Michael Murphy, spent his whole life in Ireland, dying at the age of ninety-two years. His wife also died in the old country, when eighty-seven years old. The grandparents on the maternal side, James and Margaret O'Brien, lived and died in County Tipperary. Michael Murphy, the farmer, was a farmer in Ireland, and his marriage took place there. Shortly after that event, at the age of twenty-eight years, he came to the United States, locating near Pekin, Ill., where he lived four years, moving thence to the vicinity of Tremont, in the same county. The region was then little more than a wilderness, and only a stage-coach connected Tremont with the rest of the country.

Michael Murphy and Peter Menard, together, raised Arabian and Santa Anna horses, which they herded up and down the land bordering the Mackinaw River. For twenty years, this locality was Michael Murphy's home, and at the end of that period he moved to Hopedale, Ill., where he now occupies a farm of 160 acres. Bridget (O'Brien) Murphy, his wife, died in March, 1895. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter, one son dying in infancy. The other children were: Thomas, now a contractor and builder in Peoria, Ill.; James; John, who carries on mixed farming near Hopedale, Ill.; and Catherine, who keeps house for her father. Michael Murphy served as a soldier in

an Illinois regiment throughout the Civil War. In religious faith he is a Catholic, as was his issues, and in local elections has pursued an independent course, never seeking to hold public wife. Politically he is a Democrat on national office.

James Murphy was educated in the district schools of Tremont and Hopedale, and worked at home until he was twenty-five years of age, when, for two years, he farmed near Green Valley, Ill., on rented land. Then he rented another farm in the neighborhood of Boyington, Tazewell County, Ill., on which he remained three years. At the end of this period he bought 160 acres near Delavan, Ill., paying \$62.50 per acre, and selling it eight years later, for \$90.00 per acre. In 1892 he moved to Livingston County, and, together with John Ryan, his brother-in-law, who controls 1400 acres of land near Delavan, Ill., he purchased 596 acres in the central part of Odell Township, buying out Mr. Ryan's interest in 1898. All of this land is thoroughly tilled, the drainage being perfect, and the farm is well improved. In 1900, Mr. Murphy built a handsome residence containing modern improvements, including steam heat, hot and cold water, etc. He raised Percheron horses and formerly fed Poland-China hogs, but now keeps Duroc Jerseys and Polled-Angus cattle.

Mr. Murphy was married in Delavan, Ill., December 13, 1882, to Catherine Ryan, born near that place March 18, 1856. Mrs. Murphy is a daughter of James and Margaret (Haynes) Ryan, natives of Ireland, where the birth of the father occurred in County Limerick near Limerick City, and that of the mother, in the same county. James Ryan was one of the earliest settlers of Tazewell County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have had the following children: Michael L., born October 8, 1883, married Loretta Sandwich, he resides in Odell Township and is a farmer—they have two boys (James and John) and he is a Democrat and a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America; Daniel L., born October 6, 1884, was graduated with high honors from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind., in the commercial course, in 1901, and in 1905 was graduated from the law department of that same university, being admitted to the Bar in 1905, and for the past two years has been practicing law at Chatsworth, where he was City Attorney for a year, is a Democrat in politics and fraternally a member of the Knights of Columbus and M. W. of A.; James F., born April 20, 1886, attended school at Brown's Business College, Peoria, and also Notre Dame University, and is now assisting his father on the farm, is a Democrat, a Knight of Columbus and a member of the M. W. of A.; John Delbert, born September 26, 1888, attended school at Notre Dame University, and is now taking a special course in agriculture at the University of Illinois, and, like the other members of the family is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Democratic party; William Emmet, born April 10, 1890, is attending the Illinois State University in the agricul-

tural department; Thomas Edward, born August 2, 1891; Patrick Joseph, born June 5, 1893; Catherine Loretta, born December 5, 1894; Margaret Theodosia, born July 13, 1896, and Louis Ernest, born April 28, 1901.

Politically, Mr. James Murphy was formerly a Democrat, but in the second McKinley campaign, allied himself with the Republican party. He has served as School Director and acted in the capacity of Town Clerk for twelve years, but does not court official honors. The office of Supervisor has been repeatedly tendered to him, and in each instance he has declined to accept the offer. In religion, he and his family are members of the Catholic church. He is a member of the Catholic order of Foresters, Catholic Knights of Columbus, Modern Woodmen of America, Yeomen of America, and Royal Neighbors.

MURTAUGH, Frank, a thoroughly enterprising and prosperous farmer in the vicinity of Chatsworth, Livingston County, Ill., was born in that locality, October 31, 1861, a son of Owen and Bridget (Lawless) Murtaugh, whose birth occurred in the vicinity of Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland, that of the former taking place June 8, 1826. Owen Murtaugh died at Chatsworth, Ill., May 11, 1904, his wife having passed away some years previous, leaving two children,—William M. and Frank.

The parents came to the United States, unmarried, in 1852, later being married in Marshall County, Ill. On arriving in this country the father spent a short time in Binghamton, N. Y., then removing west to Chicago, traveling partly by water and partly by stage-coach. For three years he worked on a farm near Amboy, Lee County, Ill., and then took passage for California, via New Orleans and the Isthmus of Panama. He went up the San Juan River and Lake Nicaragua, to within twelve miles of the Pacific Coast, covering this distance on horseback and going by steamer to San Francisco. After spending two years in California, working most of the time in the gold mines of Placer County, with fair success, he returned to Illinois by way of the Isthmus and New York, and bought a farm of eighty acres in Lee County, which he sold soon afterwards, later purchasing a quarter-section in Marshall County. This he also sold, investing in 160 acres in Section 1, Pella Township, Ford County. In 1869 he moved to a farm of 320 acres, which he had bought a mile further east in Ford County, to which, in course of time, he added 120 acres by another purchase. After withdrawing from active business pursuits in 1890, he disposed of the 120-acre tract, retaining ownership of the half-section originally purchased. He was the first School Trustee in Pella Township, and in Ford County served several terms as Highway Commissioner. In June, 1873, he made a visit of three months to his aged parents in Ireland, with whom he had kept in constant touch by correspondence. As soon as possible after locating in Illinois, Owen Murtaugh had been

naturalized and was ever after faithful to the obligations of citizenship.

The second marriage of Owen Murtaugh took place in 1863, when he was wedded to Alice Cleary of Wilmington, Ill., their union resulting in three children: Mary, Eugene and Alice. Mary died March 21, 1869. Eugene was fatally injured by a kick from a horse, dying June 8, 1891, when on the threshold of vigorous manhood. Alice continues to live with her mother, comforting her declining years. The Rev. William M. Murtaugh, the elder son by the former marriage, was educated in Montreal, Canada, and Baltimore, Md., and was ordained in Peoria to the Catholic priesthood in 1886. He was priest in charge of Keithsburg, Ill., for ten years and is now in the tenth year of his pastorate at Sheffield, Bureau County, Ill.

Owen Murtaugh was a man of cheerful disposition and kindly manners, and was charitable to every deserving cause. He was a devout Catholic and solemn requiem high mass was celebrated at his funeral, fourteen priests attending, the Knights of Columbus taking part and a throng of mourners from a distance being present to render heart-felt tribute to his memory.

Frank Murtaugh was reared on the homestead place, and received his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. He has devoted his entire life to farming and stock-raising, and is regarded as one of the most successful and substantial farmers of his Township. He has always taken a good citizen's interest in public affairs, and bears the reputation of being a dutiful and useful member of the community. He continued on the home farm for about two years after leaving school, and then went to Kansas, where he proved up a quarter-section of government land. He was there engaged in buying and selling stock and breeding fine horses, and also conducted a stage-line from Sycamore, Kan., to Richfield and Frisco, Kan., which he continued more than a year, when he went to San Diego, Cal., then sold his interests, and returned to Illinois, where he bought 160 acres in Charlotte Township and improved it. He made several trades, finally locating where he now lives. This property he has greatly improved, and has an elegant country residence, large barns, and in all is owner of one of the best farms in Livingston County. Besides his 160 acres in Livingston County, he owns 160 acres of well improved land in Iowa, and a half-section in Kansas.

On November 27, 1890, at Fairbury, Ill., Mr. Murtaugh married Miss Sarah Agnes Harrington, a daughter of James and Bridget (McGreat) Harrington, both natives of Westport, County Mayo, Ireland. Mrs. Murtaugh was born in Indian Grove Township, Livingston County. Her parents came to America, unmarried, the father in April, 1842, and his wife three years later. Mr. Harrington located in Mobile, Ala., upon coming to America, and from there went to Cincinnati, Ohio, fifty years ago coming to Livingston County, where he bought forty acres of

land in Indian Grove Township. While in Cincinnati he worked for \$6 per month, regularly sending part of his earnings to his mother in Ireland, and at the same time attending a night school to educate himself. He sold his first land purchase, later made several other purchases, and selling his lands at an increased price, finally removed to Yates Township, McLean County, where he bought land and lived there until 1888, when he located in Fairbury, Ill. Mr. Harrington owns over 800 acres in McLean County, and 200 acres in Livingston County. His wife died in 1900, but Mr. Harrington survives and now makes his home in Fairbury. He is a Democrat, but never cared for public office. He is a devout Catholic.

Mrs. Murtaugh was the third of a family of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Murtaugh have had the following children: one son Owen, who died at the age of eight years; Agnes, Marcella, Hazel Gertrude and James Francis. Mr. Murtaugh is a Democrat, but has never cared for political preferment. He and his family are members of the St. Peter's and Paul's Catholic church at Chatsworth, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Murtaugh are giving their children a splendid education. Agnes and Hazel are attending the Villa de Chantal at Rock Island, Ill.

MYERS, David S.—Among the peers of industry in Livingston County there are few more interesting studies in human evolution than that presented in the career of David S. Myers. Mr. Myers, arriving in this part of the state in 1892, with assets consisting chiefly of a healthy appetite, vigorous constitution and surplus wardrobe confined by string and paper, needs no introduction to the master of monetary science who, from the presidential chair of the Pontiac State Bank, directs the various functions of deposit, discount, exchange and circulation to the satisfaction of hundreds of depositors. In the driving, dynamic force of hand and will indicated in this transformation, what encouragement for the lad about to start upon his independent career minus the impediments of clogging wealth, social standing or towering ancestral precedent. Developing in many walks of life the creative and positive qualities which so distinguish his career, a distinct rebuke is found to the destructive and negative qualities of the speculator, the man who wins by the suppression of remunerative industry in others. The line this former farmer, school master, salesman, who at present is a real-estate broker, banker, industrial promoter and politician, is so full of cheery, wholesome energy, so absolutely useful and expanding in all its phases, that one seizes with avidity upon the details which bring out and vitalize his story, and which express the compelling power of high ideals, and the worth of homely sterling virtues.

The youth of Mr. Myers comprehended the almost invariable conditions from which the youth of the towns are yearly recruited. Born on a farm near Russelville, southern Ohio, he is the second youngest of the seven children of William

and Margaret Ann (Moore) Myers, natives also of southern Ohio, and the former of whom was a farmer and school teacher by occupation. As one of the cabin builders along the Kentucky line in Ohio, Francis Myers, father of William, and grandfather of the Pontiac banker, helped to push the frontier a little further towards the Pacific. He came to Brown county as a child with his parents, married an English woman who lived to a good old age, and died a fairly prosperous farmer at the age of forty-five years. He was a stanch Jeffersonian Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian church. His son, William, as well as three other sons and one daughter, were reared among strictly pioneer conditions, and inherited the purpose and determination of their German paternal and English maternal forefathers. William Myers was in no sense an office seeker, but he was brought into prominence as one of two Republicans who were the sole representatives of their party in his Township. During the Civil War he helped to operate the underground railroad, his house being a station therefor, and the humanitarianism thus indicated, was conspicuously manifest throughout his entire life. A profoundly religious man, he held firm to the tenets of the Presbyterian church, as had his father before him, and in it he held, among others, the office of trustee, and superintendent of the Sunday-school. His oldest son died as a Union soldier at Nashville, Tennessee, but he is survived by four of his children, of whom Amos F. is a resident of Madison, Kansas; John M. lives in Boise City, Idaho; and Louise J. is the wife of William Collins, of Pontiac. Mr. Myers came to Livingston County about 1890, thereafter occupying a home built for himself and wife by his son, and where his life sank to its conclusion in 1896, his devoted wife surviving him but a year.

In early life David S. Myers evidenced qualities and inclinations destined to outgrow the monotonous grind of farming and find their most potent setting in one opportunity laden atmosphere of the towns. The craving for a higher education was only partially satisfied in the district schools of Brown county, and he subsequently graduated from the high school of Russelville at the age of twenty years. To meet the expenses attached to tuition he taught school for a year and a half in Kentucky, and for one term in Ohio, and embarked upon his business life as a commercial salesman for a carriage and buggy concern, with whom he remained three years. At the expiration of that time in 1885, his energies gravitated towards the real-estate business, in Pontiac, with which he since has been almost continuously identified, for the first two years as the partner of N. Q. Tanquaray, to whose interest he then succeeded. An early conceived faith and appreciation of Livingston county realty, and the necessarily wide knowledge which converts such faith into practical results, has projected him into the front ranks of men conspicuously connected with the disposal and purchase of land and the housing of people and industries in this part of the country for the

past twenty years. In this connection he is president of the McWilliams Land Company, and treasurer of the LaCrosse Land Company. His investigations have afforded unrivalled opportunity for the personal acquisition of valuable holdings, and his investments invariably have attested his level headed business judgment and clear foresight, and have placed him among the influential landed proprietors and improvers of his home town and its environment.

Economy, and the capacity for accumulation having converted Mr. Myers into a strongly entrenched capitalist, in 1899, recognizing the need of its facilities, he organized the Pontiac State Bank, of which he since has been president, and over the destiny of which he has kept tenacious watch. Besides the president, the other original officers of the bank were C. W. Sterry, vice-president, and W. F. Van Buskirk, cashier, with C. W. Sterry, Harriet Humiston, C. E. and A. M. Legg, John S. Murphy, S. F. Snyder and Mr. Myers directors. Retaining the same president and directors, the present officers of the bank are A. M. Legg, vice-president, and William J. Butler, cashier. The bank has advanced to one of the strong and dependable financial institutions of the state, and is recognized as an extremely cautious and conservative factor in financial circles. Pronouncedly felt and expressed is the austere obligation resting upon the shoulders of those who hold in trust and manipulate the deposits of their fellow men, and confidence is rooted in the knowledge that the man at the head of the bank has been under observation in the community for years, and through right living has gained unquestioned esteem.

It would be difficult to enumerate the local undertakings which directly or indirectly have profited by the support of Mr. Myers. He is a director in the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Co., and the Allen Candy Company, and his various interests make him one of the largest employers of labor within the confines of Livingston county. To his pronounced business qualifications he joins a predilection for public service, and as a Republican of non-partisan type he has been prominent in municipal affairs for years, serving as a member of the school board, as member of the board of aldermen, and later as mayor of the town. During the administration of Governor Yates he was appointed treasurer of the Illinois State Reformatory, and his work therein amply justified the confidence thus reposed. He is not unmindful of the benefits of social diversions, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. For years he has been a member of the Union League Club, of Chicago. His family occupy a prominent place in the social life of the town, and are noted for the genuineness of their hospitality and the quietness and elegance of their atmosphere. Mr. Myers established a home of his own February 9, 1887, marrying Louise Catherine Snyder, a native of Livingston County, this state, and daughter of Simon and Mary (Beam) Snyder, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Myers are the parents

of four children, two of whom are living, Diller S. and Anna Louise, the former of whom is the assistant cashier in his father's bank.

One of the pronounced characteristics of Mr. Myers is a profound sympathy for those less fortunate than himself, and a disposition to share his estate with the needy and helpless. He is a generous donator to many worthy causes, and his generosity is tempered by that unavoidable discretion which becomes a part of the man who has swung his bark to profitable moorings through an infinity of shoals and after many grindings hardships. If the span of life is measured by ideas, by new sensations, by the ceaseless development of latent capacities, the line of this banker is longer than that of the patriarchs who drew out centuries amid the monotony of the deserts in the ceaseless round of pastoral pursuits. Measured by years, his moderation, maintenance of reserve force, constant exercise of gifts and serenity of mind have brought into the company of the most prolific of middle age workers, a man of delightful personality, innumerable friendships, absolute dependability in all the relations of life. A firm believer in the gospel of work and the honesty of man, he has proved poor material for encroachment of other than the highest ideals of citizenship. The straightforward simplicity and directness of the farm hand is not lost in the captain of manifold industry, and it is safe to say that no man whose name stands for the best financiering in Livingston County has in greater extent the unostentation, approachableness, sympathy and courtesy which are the hall-marks of true dignity and worth.

NIMMO, George.—Thrift, industry and enterprise are three traits of character which work towards success in every line of industrial activity. Livingston County is fortunate in numbering among its citizens many men who possess all three, and one who has attained to considerable success because he has known how to work, save and invest, is George Nimmo, a progressive young farmer on Section 4, Indian Grove Township. Mr. Nimmo was born near Edinburgh, Scotland, December 31, 1869, a son of William and Catherine (Arbuckle) Nimmo, both natives of Scotland. They were married in their active land and became the parents of eleven children, five of whom grew to maturity: Catherine, residing with her mother in Fairbury; William, a farmer of Indian Grove Township; George; Jeannie B., wife of James A. Carter, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; and Lizzie M., wife of Frederick Gilman, a farmer residing near Pontiac—all in prosperous circumstances.

William Nimmo came with his family from Scotland to Quebec, Canada, and thence to Fairbury, Ill., reaching that place June 12, 1872. Here a brother-in-law had located, and Mr. Nimmo, being a cotton-spinner by trade and there being no cotton mills in Fairbury began working in and around the coal mines. As soon as he could purchase a team he did so,

and continued in the teaming business until 1878, when he rented land. Later he bought forty acres of land lying west of the Fair Grounds, still later purchasing 240 acres just west of the city of Fairbury, which is the farm owned by George Nimmo and which is very valuable. William Nimmo met his death by an accident in a coal shaft, December 31, 1887. His widow is still living, with her daughter, Catherine, residing in Fairbury. The mother kept the family together until 1903, when George Nimmo married and the estate was divided, the 240 acres mentioned being his share. William Nimmo also owns a large property adjoining the city, the brothers together owning 548 acres, which they have possessed because of the three qualities spoken of,—thrift, industry, and enterprise. Until 1903, they operated the farms in partnership, but in that year divided the property. When Mr. George Nimmo came to his present property there was not a building upon it. In the spring of 1903 he put up his present handsome residence.

On April 30, 1903, George Nimmo was married to Cora E. Fetzer, a daughter of Josiah Fetzer, a leading farmer of Avoca Township, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Nimmo took possession of their new home, and since then have made many excellent improvements, now having substantial barns and well-ordered premises, which testify to their prosperity. For many years Mr. Nimmo has made a specialty of the breeding of Poland-China and Duroc-Jersey hogs, keeping about 100 head. All his hogs are of registered stock, and he has been very successful along these lines, his product generally commanding the highest prices everywhere. He also keeps a high grade of horses, mules and cattle. He has one of the finest Spanish Jacks in the county, "Monster," Record No. 50107, sixteen hands high, standard weight 1150 pounds. Mr. Nimmo is a leader in stock-raising and breeding, and his animals have taken many prizes at fairs. He has been much interested in the general advancement and development of his community. In 1906 he suffered a loss by fire in consequence of lightning striking his barn, but the burned building was replaced by one of the most modern and improved barns in the county. Most of his buildings are equipped with cement floors.

In politics, Mr. Nimmo is a Republican, and is interested in local affairs. In talking over his career, Mr. Nimmo gives to his noble mother the credit due for his success, for he feels that it was her teaching, devotion and love that encouraged the children and made them put forth their best efforts. This excellent lady is living in Fairbury, aged seventy-three years, surrounded by the deserved comforts of life, and happy in the devotion of her children.

NORMAN, Mrs. Asenith, now living with her daughter, Mrs. Henry B. DeMoss, in Avoca Township, is one of the venerable ladies of this locality, and she has witnessed many of the wonderful changes which have taken place in the

development of Illinois to its present proud position among the leading States of the Union. Mrs. Norman was born in Vermilion County, Ill., January 30, 1834, a daughter of John and Mary (Blunt) Snider, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Snider located in Vermilion County, Ill., being among the very early settlers of that part of the State.

Mrs. Norman remained in Vermilion County until her first marriage, which took place December 3, 1850, when she became the wife of Alfred Lane, born in Illinois, May 5, 1826. Mr. and Mrs. Lane had these children: Mary E., who married James W. Graves; Nancy, who died at the age of twenty-four; John C., who is a resident of Avoca Township; and Sarah, who died when about seven years old. Alfred Lane was one of the successful farmers of Avoca Township, where he and his wife settled in 1851 on an uncultivated farm. They were without means at that time, but when Mr. Lane died, January 10, 1859, he left an estate of 300 acres of land well improved and supplied with all necessary buildings, including a comfortable home. He was an honorable, upright Christian man, and a devout member of the Methodist church of Avoca Township, to which he was a liberal contributor.

After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Norman continued to reside in Avoca Township, attending to her farm and bringing up her children. On February 14, 1861, she married Isaac Norman, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, February 14, 1840. He came to Livingston County in 1851 and resided in Avoca Township until his death, which occurred February 4, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Norman were the parents of the following children: Amy, who married John Brick of McDowell, Ill.; Rosa, who married Henry Boyd DeMoss; Wesley, who married Myrtle Zook; Dolly, who married Edgar Snethin, of Pontiac, Ill. Mr. Norman was a man widely respected and honored, and his memory is tenderly cherished by his widow and children. As a citizen he was closely identified with the best interests of the Township, and as a man he was a tender, loving husband and wise and affectionate father. Like Mrs. Norman he was a member of the Methodist church and bore his part in its work.

For the past year Mrs. Norman has been making her home with Mrs. DeMoss, her own house having become too lonely, bereft as she was of husband and children. She wanted to be with her loved ones once more and surrounded by children. She is a lady of great intelligence, and talks most entertainingly of the days she so well remembers when occurred so many stirring events in the life of our Nation.

NORTON, Alphonso Cain.—The course of a long professional career has brought to Mr. Norton considerable prominence as an attorney and a high reputation for thorough knowledge of the principles governing jurisprudence. All of his life, with the exception of the period of his

preparation for his life work, has been passed within the limits of Livingston County, where he was born on a farm in Newtown Township, April 18, 1859, and where he was primarily educated in country schools. The family of which he is an honored member came from the East, his parents, Eben and Phoebe Jane (Cain) Norton, having been natives of Farmington, Franklin County, Maine. The grandfathers were Samuel B. Norton and John Cain, the former of whom married a Miss Day, and the latter a Miss Boardman. As early as 1833 the maternal grandparents became pioneers of Ohio, settling in Warren County, that State, whence, after the death of his mother, Eben Norton went to Ohio in 1844 to make his home with an uncle, Philip Eastman. There he remained until May of 1854, at which time he came to Illinois and settled in Newtown Township, Livingston County, taking up the practice of medicine, to which he devoted his time during the following years. During 1872 he removed to Cornell, Livingston County, where he not only practiced medicine, but also carried on a drug store. The failure of his health in 1885 caused him to sell his store and retire from practice, after which he removed to Pontiac, whither his son had preceded him about six years, and in that city he died April 30, 1895, and there his widow still continues to make her home.

For some years Alphonso Cain Norton attended Grand Prairie Seminary at Onarga, Iroquois County, and during vacations he helped his father in the drug store. In 1877 he entered the law department of Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, where he pursued his studies for two years, leaving in 1879. On coming to Pontiac he entered the law office of Hon. L. E. Payson, who, in November, 1880, was elected to the Congress, serving with distinction for five terms, and now resides in Washington, D. C. During the fall of 1880, Mr. Norton was admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois, and immediately entered upon his professional work in Mr. Payson's office, where he continues at the present time, having become proprietor instead of student. Besides his professional work, he is a stockholder in the bank at Cornell, Ill., and a director of the Livingston County National and the Illinois State Savings Banks at Pontiac. The Democratic party has received his staunch support and its principles have been given his earnest allegiance.

Fraternally, Mr. Norton is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Pontiac and the Masons Fraternity, in the latter holding membership in the Blue Lodge and Chapter at Pontiac, the K. T. Commandery at Fairbury, and Mohammed Shrine, N. M. S., at Peoria. His marriage took place March 17, 1887, uniting him with Annie Sims, who was born in Joliet, a granddaughter of Samuel S. Strong, and a daughter of Captain William S. and Salina A. (Strong) Sims, natives of Lebanon, Ind. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Norton are as follows: William E., born January 13, 1888; Harry Sims, born September 4, 1892; Glenn Day, born August 20, 1894; and Helen Josephine, born December 2, 1897, all

of whom are with their parents in their pleasant home at Pontiac.

OLSON, Thomas A. (deceased).—Norway has contributed many of our most prosperous and reliable citizens who, upon coming to this country, have adopted our customs and striven to support our laws. By nature frugal and industrious, they have become wealthy and their children are among our representative men and women. When Soren Olson was seven years old, and Sophia Danielson was six, they were brought from Norway by their parents to LaSalle County, Ill. The former, now seventy-two years old, and his wife sixty-nine, are still living, and reside in Kempton, Ford County, where they are much respected. Their son, Thomas A. Olson, was one of a family of eight children, five boys and three girls, five of whom survive. He was born November 20, 1860, and died August 28, 1903, when only forty-three years old.

Mr. Olson was educated in the public schools of Livingston County having come to it when only four years of age, and he spent his life in farming. In 1881 he bought his first farm, paying \$35 per acre for it, and developed it, until it is now in a high state of cultivation. He then purchased the present home of the family in Broughton Township, to which they moved in 1900, and which is one of the best farms in the Township of 160 acres. In political faith he was a Republican, and served as Collector for three terms, Assessor four years, School Director for twelve years and Supervisor for two terms, and always took an active interest in local politics. Religiously he and his family were identified with the Latter Day Saints.

On December 1, 1882, Mr. Olson married Maggie Anderson of LaSalle County, daughter of Andrew B. and Martha Anderson, natives of Norway. They came to America at the ages of eighteen and twenty, respectively; were married at Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., and engaged in farming. He died in 1876, aged fifty-seven, and she died in 1869. Mrs. Olson was third in a family of six children. The father was a Republican, and in religious matters he was a Latter Day Saint and she a Lutheran. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Olson were: Lena G., aged twenty-five years, now Mrs. Robert Lithgow, and they are farmers of Livingston County, Union Township; William E., died at the age of three years; Earnest E., age twenty-two; Clarence R., aged twenty; Roy J., aged eighteen; Stella Waive, aged sixteen; Ethel May, aged fourteen; and Edith Viola, aged ten. Mr. Olson was a man widely known and much respected and his untimely demise was severely felt throughout the community.

ORENDORFF, Daniel, who has been for nearly thirty-five years a respected farmer in Livingston County, Ill., and is now spending his days in leisure on the farm which he owns in the vicinity of the village of Flanagan, was born in Woodford County, Ill., on November 8, 1848,

a son of Daniel and Katharina (Albrecht) Orendorff, natives of Germany, the father born in Hessen in 1800, and the mother's birth occurring in 1815. They emigrated to the United States in 1837, and settled in Illinois, where Daniel Orendorff bought a farm of 160 acres in Woodford County, on which both parents spent the remainder of their lives. Their family consisted of six children, of whom three are still living. Daniel Orendorff was brought up on the Woodford County farm, in boyhood attending the district schools of Spring Bay Township. At the age of twenty-five years, he located in Livingston County, and, in 1873, bought eighty acres of land in Nebraska Township, where he was engaged in general farming for a number of years. He now owns 120 acres near Flanagan, but has relinquished agricultural labors, and is passing his time in quiet comfort, without being burdened by the cares and responsibilities of the farm.

Mr. Orendorff was joined in matrimony with Mary Yordy, in Woodford County, Ill., on February 15, 1872, and to their union seven children have been born, four of whom are living.

In 1890 Mr. Orendorff was ordained to the ministry of the gospel and (besides farming) has been pastor of the Mennonite congregation in Waldo Township, Livingston County, up to the present time. He takes no active part in politics.

OUGHTON, James H., M. D.—The men connected with The Leslie Keeley Company of Dwight, Ill., are possessed of more than ordinary business ability, and many of them have grown up in its employ and are thoroughly devoted to its service, appreciating the wonderful good effected by it in the reclamation of those who have been slaves to some destroying habit.

Dr. James H. Oughton not only has spent his life in the employ of The Leslie E. Keeley Company, but fitted himself for the medical profession in order to be able to take an active part in every branch of the business. Dr. Oughton was born at Dwight, Ill., January 28, 1882, a son of John Richard Oughton, chemist for The Leslie E. Keeley Company. Dr. Oughton was educated in the Dwight Public Schools and St. John's Military Academy, Readfield, Wis., then entering the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he was graduated. He belongs to the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity of his college; is a member of the Livingston County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association; is also a member of the Blue Lodge Consistory and Mystic Shrine, and is very prominent as a Mason.

Leaving Dwight for the military academy at the age of twelve, Dr. Oughton was very carefully trained, and upon returning from Chicago with his degree of M. D., he was installed as resident physician of The Leslie E. Keeley Company, which important office he still holds. He has taken an active part in the work of the Congregational Church of which he is a member, and is on its Board of Control as Trustee. In

politics he is a Republican, but his professional duties so occupy his time that he has no inclination for public office.

On January 11, 1908, occurred the marriage of Dr. Oughton and Miss Barbara I. Corbett, who was born in Elk Rapids, Mich., December 11, 1884. Dr. and Mrs. Oughton are very prominent socially, and the former is recognized as one of the most progressive and liberal-minded of the young physicians of Livingston County, while his sympathy and thorough understanding of his great work make him invaluable to those who come under his skillful hands for treatment.

OUGHTON, J. R.—John Richard Oughton, President of The Leslie E. Keeley Company, of Dwight, Ill., and one of the organizers of that company, was born in Clonmel, Ireland, September 24, 1858, being the eldest son of John Richard Oughton, born in 1828, and Wilhelmina (Latham) Oughton, who was born in 1838. Both of Mr. Oughton's parents were natives of Ireland and lived there all their lives.

The subject of this sketch was educated in his native country and came to Dwight, Ill., as a prescription clerk in 1879. Here he made the acquaintance of the late Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, and when the latter established the first Keeley Institute, and abandoned general practice to go into the special work of curing drunkards and drug users, John Richard Oughton was one of the first persons associated with him. From the inception of the business, Mr. Oughton was the chemist and the compounder of all the remedies used, and has continued to supervise this work to the present day. The original partnership was merged into a corporation in 1886, at which time Dr. Keeley was elected President and Mr. Oughton, Vice-President of the company, which still continues the business. In 1900, when Doctor Keeley died, Mr. Oughton was chosen President of the corporation, an office which he still fills.

In politics, Mr. Oughton is a Republican, and for five terms served as President of the Board of Trustees of Dwight, Ill. While interested in local affairs, he has never found the time to take any active part in either State or national politics. Fraternally, he is very prominent as a Mason, having passed the York rite, the Scottish rite, and and received the Thirty-Third Degree in September, 1907. is a Mystic Shriner and a member of the Order of Elks. His religious affiliations are with the Episcopal Church. Mr. Oughton has two children: James H., born in 1882, and John R., Jr., born in 1884.

Mr. Oughton is one of the most public spirited citizens in Livingston County, and few enterprises looking to the welfare of the people at large fail to receive his enthusiastic support. While as stated, he is an active Republican, he has never been an office-seeker, and his devotion to the cause of his adopted country has always been unselfish. Not only as far as the affairs of The Leslie E. Keeley Company are concerned, at whose helm he stands, but also in the management of his private interests, which are ex-

tensive and wherein large numbers of men are employed, he is recognized as the soul of honor, as a liberal and upright citizen, a firm and faithful friend.

PAGELS, Edward C.—Although a native of Germany, born in Prussia, October 19, 1859, Mr. Pagels was to all intents and purposes a native-born citizen of the United States, whither he came at the age of six years with his parents, John and Caroline Pagels. Coming direct to Chicago, the father found little difficulty in securing employment at his trade as a carpenter and contractor, and throughout the remainder of his life followed this vocation in that city. He died March 20, 1887, in Chicago, where his widow still makes her home. Upon the completion of his school training Edward C. Pagels was employed for a number of years in various stores of that city, finally becoming proprietor of an establishment of his own at Nos. 1038-1040 Milwaukee Avenue, where up to the time of his death on December 8, 1897, he conducted a very prosperous merchant tailoring business.

The marriage of Edward C. Pagels occurred September 20, 1884, uniting him with Sophia Marie Ficke, who was born at Lake Zurich, Lake County, Ill., into the home of Lewis and Otealia A. (Petrie) Ficke, who were born respectively in Hanover and West Prussia, Germany, although they met and were married after coming to the United States. Mrs. Ficke now makes her home in Dwight, Ill., at the age of sixty-four years, her husband having passed away June 14, 1887. In her girlhood Mrs. Pagels was educated in the public and high schools of her home town and also attended a parochial school. She came to Dwight in January, 1900, and during the same year, started upon a new enterprise, purchasing a hotel of forty rooms which has since been known as the Grand Central Hotel. Mrs. Pagels' brother, Albert R. Ficke, is also financially interested in the enterprise, owning a half interest.

Three children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pagels, and of them we make the following brief mention: The eldest, Grace Lillian, was born July 10, 1885; gifted with superior musical talent she was placed as a pupil under competent teachers in the Chicago Musical College, and after graduation from that well-known institution, it was her privilege to extend her studies in Paris under Professor Moritz Moszkowski. Upon her return to Chicago she became an instructor in the Chicago Musical College, being thus employed for two years, when she removed to Dwight and has since made her home with her mother. The next child in order of birth was Viola Estella, who was born September 14, 1887, and passed away in childhood, December 14, 1890. The youngest child, Irving Edward, was born April 30, 1889, and is preparing himself to become a civil engineer at the University of Illinois.

Mr. Pagels was reared in the faith of the Lutheran church, and throughout his life adhered to its teachings. He took a particular

interest in political affairs in Chicago, where the greater part of his life was passed, and was a staunch defender of Republican principles. He was also well known in fraternal circles, especially in the Odd Fellow and Masonic fraternities.

PALMER, Charles Elmer, a diligent and pains-taking farmer in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in the same township, October 29, 1869, a son of Henry and Mary Ann Palmer, natives of England and United States, respectively. Details of his father's life, together with particulars in regard to the family history, may be found in a separate biographical narrative in this connection. The education of Charles E. Palmer was obtained in the district schools of his neighborhood, and his youth was spent in assisting his father in farming operations on the home place. At the age of twenty-one years he practically took charge of the paternal farm, and has since rented it. On March 1, 1902, he bought a farm of eighty acres in Round Grove Township, a part of which he cultivates, still occupying the homestead, however, which consists of 120 acres. He has never married. On January 15, 1907, he bought another farm of 200 acres in Faulk County, Myron Township, near Cresford, South Dakota.

Politically, Mr. Palmer is a supporter of the Republican party. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of The Globe. Mr. Palmer is a man of quiet and unobtrusive manners, but of energetic habits and unremitting industry, giving his faithful attention to his own work. As a neighbor, he enjoys the respect and good will of all the residents of his vicinity, and faithfully discharges his duties to the community in which he has spent all of his life.

PALMER, Henry, a retired farmer, who formerly operated 200 acres of land in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, Ill., but is now a resident of Dwight, Ill., is an honored veteran of the Civil War, and bears, in his waning years, the scars of wounds received in defence of the Union. Mr. Palmer was born in Norfolk County, England, November 23, 1835, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Bean) Palmer. Thomas Palmer was the foreman upon a large farm, or estate in England, where he and his wife spent their entire lives, the father dying in 1846. Their family consisted of three sons and six daughters, but two of whom are living besides the subject of this sketch, namely: Ann (Mrs. Walling), and Sophia, who lives with her sister in England. Henry Palmer, who was the seventh child in order of birth, received a very fair education in the free schools of England. He was eleven years old when his father died, and five years later came to the United States in company with Patrick Sutterby, who lived in Michigan, but had returned to England for his wife, who had remained on the other side of the water when her husband came to this country. In 1852 Mr. Palmer came to Illinois, and worked in the woods

of Cook and DuPage Counties two years, cutting timber. From 1857 to 1861, he farmed on rented land in the latter country. In 1861, Mr. Palmer enlisted in Company F, Fifty-third Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, (The "Ottawa Regiment"), and was first under heavy fire at the battle of Shiloh. After participating in the siege of Vicksburg, he went with his regiment to Jackson, Miss., in pursuit of Gen. Johnston's forces. At the Battle of Corinth, while he was in charge on the Confederate Batteries, seeing the smoke following a shot, he started to fall on his face, but a half-pound ball struck him in the cheek, entering his shoulder and lodging in his back. On being borne to the camp hospital, the surgeon, after a hurried examination, pronounced the wound only an abrasion, and the bullet, which is still in his possession, was not removed for eleven days. A minnie ball also passed through the fleshy part of his arm. After recovering from the wound, he carried the regimental colors for a year. Later, in the Georgia campaign, he was assigned to the Commissary Department, and afterwards accompanied Gen. Thomas' command to Nashville. At the close of the war he took part in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., and at Louisville Ky., was mustered out of service. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Returning home he bought, in August, 1865, 40 acres of land in Round Grove Township, which he gradually improved, adding to his original holding until he acquired 200 acres, of which he still owns 120 acres. In 1901 he withdrew from active pursuits, and established his home in Dwight.

On August 23, 1865, Mr. Palmer was married at Naperville, Ill., to Mary Ann Lyons, born in Terre Haute, Ind., March 17, 1842. Mrs. Palmer is a daughter of Hector and Mary (Creamer) Lyons, and her father began farming in DuPage County, Ill., in 1845, having been a coach painter in early life. This union resulted in eight children as follows: Frank, an engineer in Aurora, Ill.; Ellen, who married George Saunders, a farmer in Kansas; Charles, who is engaged in farming in that State; Clara, wife of Charles Spencer, a farmer in Indiana; John, who carries on farming in Nevada Township; Louis and Elizabeth, deceased; and Anna, who lives in Grundy County, Ill., and is the wife of Alexander Bolen.

Mr. Palmer was formerly identified with the Democratic party, but when the "free silver" issue sprang up he became a Republican. He has served three terms as Road Commissioner, and has acted in the capacity of School Director. He enjoys the profound respect and cordial good will of all classes in the community.

PARTRIDGE, William, a retired and honored citizen of Amity Township, Livingston County, in the enjoyment of the fruits of a lifetime of honest endeavor. His whole career illustrates the advantages, both personal and general, of a wellspent life. He has the distinction, also, of descent from some of the oldest and most honorable American families. Born at Barnett, Vt., May 1, 1828, a son of John M. and Charlotte

C. (Emerson) Partridge, he was educated at the Norwich, Vt., Military Academy, which was founded in 1820 by Captain Alden Partridge, and he has been a resident of Illinois since immediately after the close of the Civil War.

John M. Partridge, the father of William Partridge, was born at Norwich, Vt., July 4, 1799. There, too, was born on September 13, 1803, Charlotte C. Emerson, whom he married. He was a son of Samuel and Blanche (Newton) Partridge, and his wife a daughter of Elihu and Thankful (Grant) Emerson—the former born May 12, 1786, and died July 20, 1871; the latter dying October 31, 1873. Elihu Emerson was a son of Elihu and Mary (Clapp) Emerson, his wife, Thankful Grant, being a daughter of Alexander and Marian (Sexton) Bliss Grant. Alexander Grant was a son of Samuel and Theophyle (Bartlett) Grant. Samuel Grant was a son of Samuel and Ann (Filley) Grant, and was born October 27, 1601, and died December 16, 1681. Samuel Grant, his father, was a son of Matthew and Priscilla Grant. Of this same family of Grants came Jesse R. Grant, father of the last President U. S. Grant and grandfather of General Frederick D. Grant, U. S. A. The Emersons mentioned here were descended from the Rev. Peter Bulkeley, who was born January 31, 1583, was driven from England by religious persecution in 1633, came to Cambridge, Mass., in 1634, and in 1635, established at Concord the eighth church in the colonies. Of the same family of Emersons came Ralph Waldo Emerson, Edwin Emerson and others of the name who have been heard of in America. William Grant's great-grandfather Partridge was an officer in Colonial Wars, and Samuel, his grandfather, served the cause of the Colonies in the Revolutionary War.

John M. Partridge and Charlotte C. Emerson were married at Norwich, Vt., February 13, 1822. During his early manhood Mr. Partridge was a teacher of mathematics and military science, but eventually he engaged in the lumber business at Barnett, Vt. Thence he moved to Tarrytown, N. Y., where he was killed in a stone quarry June 26, 1831. His wife survived him until October 2, 1893. They had four children—Ann Eliza, Edward A., William and John M. The latter died at the age of four years and six months. William completed his scientific education at twenty-one years of age and began active life as a civil engineer in railroad work in Vermont. A year later he went to Pennsylvania, where he was employed in surveying coal lands and in railroad engineering. After two years of such work he went to the Sunbury & Erie Railroad, where he was employed three years. Thence he went to Philadelphia, where, in connection with the office of S. W. Hall, he had valuable experience in bridge building. From Philadelphia he went to Wisconsin, where he had charge of bridges and bridge work until during the Civil War he enlisted in the Forty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. In 1864, in Tennessee, he was detailed to the topographical engineering

department, with which he was connected until the end of the war.

Upon his return to civil life, Mr. Partridge took charge of a coal mine at Peru, Ill., where he lived until 1869. On February 25th, of that year, he married Lucy (Canfield) Abbott, widow of Albert D. Abbott, and a daughter of Lee and Ruth (Butler) Canfield, who were natives of Connecticut. Soon after his marriage he removed to Bloomington and later to Normal, Ill. He owned considerable land in Livingston County where he engaged at farming and stockraising, giving particular attention to horses. In 1894 he bought a farm of 252 acres in Amity Township, Livingston County, and in 1899 purchased 202 acres more adjoining this and eighty acres in Newtown Township. He rebuilt the house on the homestead, supplying it with a water system and with other modern improvements, and lived at Normal until 1905, when he became a member of the family of his son. William and Lucy (Canfield) Partridge had two sons. Edward A. Partridge was born December 7, 1870, was educated in the public schools near his home, and was a member of his parents' household until his marriage August 22, 1893, to Lizzie Smith, a native of Danvers Township, McLean County, Ill., who was born February 6, 1868, a daughter of Adolphus and Julia (Haybarger) Smith, natives of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Partridge have children named as follows: William M., born March 2, 1899; Edward F., born February 6, 1902; Lucy, born July 22, 1904, and Lewis Albin, born August 3, 1907. William F. Partridge, the younger son of the immediate subject of this sketch, was born November 15, 1878. Since 1899 he has been farming at Cornell. He was married August 1, 1905, to Ada B. Corbin, who was born July 30, 1887, a daughter of William P. and Flora (Rhodes) Corbin, natives, respectively, of Virginia and of Wisconsin. They have two daughters—Charlotte E., born July 8, 1906, and Harriet C., born October 27, 1907.

Mr. Partridge has been a lifelong Republican, and always actively interested in the policies of his party. In his church relation he is a Baptist and he long held the offices of trustee and deacon. His life has been one of useful and productive endeavor, and he has reason to look back upon it with considerable satisfaction.

PATCHETT, Radford T., whose landed possessions in Livingston County, Ill., comprise 400 acres, is one of the most prosperous and substantial farmers of Round Grove Township, which has been his home for nearly twenty-five years. He was born in Will County, Ill., October 18, 1859, a son of Paddison and Martha (Dudels) Patchett, natives of England, where the birth of his father occurred in 1828, and that of his mother in 1827. Paddison Patchett followed farming for a livelihood. Sometime after his marriage, which took place in England, he and his wife came to the United States, arriving during the '50s, and locating in Will County, Ill., whence he subsequently moved to Kankakee

County. In the course of his agricultural experience there he developed into an extensive farm owner, acquiring between 1300 and 1400 acres of land. Death terminated his busy and successful career on June 25, 1896. His wife survived him but a brief period, passing away June 15, 1898. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their family consisted of eight children, of whom six are still living. Besides being a very energetic and progressive farmer, Paddison Patchett was a well disposed and useful member of the community. Politically, he was always a supporter of the Republican party.

Radford Patchett was reared on the paternal property, his education being obtained in the common schools of Kankakee County. He lived and worked at home until he was twenty-two years of age, and in 1884, moved to Round Grove Township, Livingston County, renting the farm where he now lives, containing 160 acres. This he bought after occupying it a while, and has since become the owner of several other pieces of land in the same vicinity, aggregating 400 acres, on which he has made many improvements.

On January 1, 1884, Mr. Patchett was united in marriage with Nancy Ethel Ralph, who was born in Will County, Ill., a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Hibner) Ralph. James Ralph was born in England, and his wife in Crawford County, Ohio. Their ancestors came to the United States early in the last century, and the father bought land and applied himself to farming, an occupation in which he is still engaged, near Joliet, Will County, Ill. The mother of Mrs. Patchett died at the home in Will County, January 18, 1905. This union was the source of six children, as follows: Elvis R., who married Amelia Wenzelman, and they reside in Round Grove Township; Della May, wife of Wesley Gruenewald, and they reside in Chicago; Bessie, a graduate of the Louis Chaplain Seminary, Chicago, in the class of 1907; Phoebe Almeda; Herbert Dewey and Howard Ellsworth, twins. The last four are at home.

In politics, Mr. Patchett is identified with the Republican party, and is faithful in the fulfillment of the obligations devolving upon him as a member of the community. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

PATERNOSTER, Joseph, head of the firm of Paternoster & Son, plasterers and stone-masons, workers in cement and manufacturers of cement blocks, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. The subject of this sketch, after learning the uses and possibilities of cement in Europe, came to America at a time when the demand for that material in the construction of buildings was just beginning to be recognized. How well he apprehended and took advantage of his opportunities his later business success demonstrates. Nor has he been slow to keep abreast of all improvements in the manufacture and uses of cement, or to avail himself of obvious oppor-

tunities for its extension into newer fields of usefulness.

Joseph Paternoster was born in Trejoal, Austria, December 16, 1852, a son of Joseph Paternoster, Sr., a shoemaker and farmer who worked his earthly destiny out to its end in his native land. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm and in gaining a primary education. When he was fifteen years of age he went to his brother, Manuel Paternoster, to learn the trade of plasterer, brick-mason and cement worker, and under the able instructions of the latter, during the succeeding six years, acquired a practical knowledge of these trades in all their details. He was the youngest of six children, two of whom—a son and a daughter—are now deceased. Manuel and Henry Paternoster are living in their native land. The former has given up masonry and cement work and, like his brother Henry, is a farmer.

In 1875, when he was between twenty-three and twenty-four years old, Joseph Paternoster went to Switzerland where, until October, 1882, he was a contractor of masonry and cement work. On October 6, bringing with him a strong recommendation from T. Hauser, mayor of the city in which he had been operating, he started for America. He stopped at Ontario, Canada, where he secured work for the city in the construction of cement walks. In 1889 he came to Illinois and located in Fairbury, where he has since lived and labored. He has finished many of the finest buildings in the city and surrounding country so far as the foundation and plaster work is concerned. His last noteworthy achievement, completed in April, 1908, was the new forty-room hotel at Chatsworth. He gives a positive guarantee as to quality and durability for all work that he undertakes, and is able to point to evidences of his mechanical skill in every direction. For more than thirty years he has devoted himself to this line of construction, in which he has had exceptional experience for variety and thoroughness, having erected the first two-story building of cement blocks in Fairbury. He has recently added to his establishment a cement-block machine with a capacity of 200 blocks a day, with which he is able to make cement blocks of any shape or size.

Mr. Paternoster married in 1877, Miss Madeline Schuler, a native of Switzerland, and the following facts concerning the six children she bore her husband will not be out of place in this connection. Joseph is a farmer in Livingston County. John is a conductor in the employ of the company controlling the street railway system of Peoria. Emil, of Forrest, Ill., is in the employ of the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad Company, in the capacity of a railway conductor. Henry is a member of the firm of Paternoster & Son, Fairbury. Manuel is a plasterer and brick mason at Rosenberg, Fort Bend County, Texas. Rosa is a member of her parents' household.

Mr. Paternoster has given to each of his children an education fitting them for any position to which they may be called. He has always

taken an active part in public enterprise and there is no measure which, in his opinion, tends to benefit the community which he does not advocate and support to the extent of his ability. He is a member of the Amish church of Fairbury, and politically supports the principles of the Republican party in which his sons, as they have attained their majority, have enrolled themselves as members.

PATTON, Caleb L. (deceased).—If any man who ever lived in Livingston County deserved to rank with the pioneers of the State, Caleb L. Patton, a former well-known farmer in the vicinity of Fairbury, certainly did. One of the earliest comers to the County, he found it wild and uncultivated, scarcely free from savage claimants and inhabited principally by wild animals. He saw what is now a flourishing town take root, as it were, and watched it grow and prosper until it was a goodly municipality. He saw the surrounding country subdued, surveyed into farms, put under cultivation and improved, until it became one of the garden spots of the Middle West. Not only did he see this phenomenal development, but he participated in it, and, beyond that, he was in no small sense one of the important factors in it. It is to Mr. Patton, and men like him, that citizens of Livingston County owe honor and long remembrance, for their perils and hardships were the foundation stones upon which was built the beginning of the prosperity of to-day.

Caleb L. Patton was born in Greene County, Pa., June 6, 1816, a son of the Rev. James Patton, also a native of Pennsylvania. He was reared on a farm and educated in subscription schools. March 22, 1835, he married Mrs. Orpha Kirby, daughter of John Myers, and a member of an old Pennsylvania family, born January 16, 1811. She had been previously married to James Kirby who died in 1834, after she had borne him five children, three of whom are yet living. Of those living: Phoebe Freeman, of Bloomington, Ill., (formerly Mrs. William Buckingham), has two children. Mr. Buckingham died in 1858. Their daughter Sadie married Julius Freeman, a graduate of the United States Naval School, at Annapolis, Md., a midshipman now retired on full pay and living at Bloomington, and another daughter Ellen, married William H. Grary of Chicago. Plesency (Kirby) Cumpston lives at Fairbury, and James Kirby, a retired farmer, is a citizen of Fairbury. John and Joseph Kirby are the deceased.

Mr. Patton and his wife and family remained in Pennsylvania until October, 1851, when they came to Illinois and settled in Woodford County. There they remained until March, 1856, when they came to Livingston County. Mr. Patton bought 303 acres of land where Fairbury has since grown up. Twenty acres of this tract had been broken and there was a frame building being erected covering a ground space of sixteen by twenty-four feet. As late as the fall of 1855 no road had been made south of Chenoa. Caleb L. Patton and his son Francis M., coming by way of Chenoa, made the first wagon tracks

from Chenoa to the site of Fairbury, being guided by the stakes driven to mark the line of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad, then awaiting construction. After the family located in Livingston County, they had for some time to get their mail from Avoca and their hardware, dry goods and some other necessary materials, at Pontiac. John D. Vail had established a small grocery store, the first in this part of the county, hauling his goods from Joliet. By the spring of 1857 the railroad grade had been finished as far as Chenoa. In that year Mr. Patton gave an undivided half of the original site of Fairbury as an inducement to locate the town where it was platted. Not long afterward he sold his interest in it to A. J. Cropsey, and in 1864 he laid out Patton's Addition to Fairbury, comprising about forty acres. Having disposed of his original purchase at Fairbury, he bought the John Darnell farm of 240 acres. Darnell was a brother of Mason Darnell, the first settler in Livingston County. The family moved on that farm in 1865 and remained there until 1870, when they located at Fairbury. In 1873 they went to Tecumseh, Neb., and in 1877 they returned to Illinois, locating in Woodford County, where Mr. Patton died in 1881, aged sixty-five years.

During his residence in Livingston County, Mr. Patton demonstrated his public spirit many times in many different ways. It has often been said that no appeal to him for assistance on any measure tending to the general good was ever refused. In a purely personal way he was characteristically sympathetic and generous. As occasion offered he helped many of his struggling neighbors in ways so timely and practical that they had reason to remember him as long as they lived, and it is said that he invariably extended to any needy applicant such practical aid and encouragement as he was able to afford. Though he had decided ideas concerning all questions of public moment, he was not in the ordinary sense of the term a politician, nor was he an office seeker, but he was one of the members of the first school board elected at Fairbury. He and his wife with four others organized the First Baptist Church there and he was its deacon. He was also a member of the A. F. & A. M. order.

Mrs. Patton, who survived her husband until 1897, was a worthy representative of the class of pioneer women to whom Illinois owes much. Of decided character and of cool and deliberate judgment, she was always found on the right side of any question, and like her husband she was ever glad to aid any worthy cause or person. The following items concerning the children of Caleb L. and Orpha (Myers) Kirby Patton will be of interest in this connection. Mary Patton (deceased) was the wife of John E. Dodds, who is now a resident of Chicago, and bore him twelve children. David Patton served in the Civil War as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1863. He was twice married.

First to Nellie Brocaugh, who bore him one child named Lulu. He is now a resident of Peoria. Cephas Patton died at the age of nine years. Dr. R. L. Patton was graduated from the Medical College of San Francisco, Cal., and from the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago. He located at Riverside, Cal., where he died in 1887. He married Miss Anna Brown who bore him one child. William Patton lives at Los Angeles, Cal., and is the owner of a walnut grove of fifteen acres. Emma Patton became the wife of W. H. Strevell, who is dead. Albert Patton, served in the Civil War in the Forty-fourth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, and fought again in the Spanish American War. He is now a resident of Milwaukee, Wis. He married Avia Spence, who died after having borne him children named Zella, Boyd and Madge. Francis M. Patton is represented by a separate sketch in this work. Louise (deceased) was the wife of David Drennan, to whom she bore three children named Boyd, Jennie and Goldie. Orpha Patton is the wife of the Rev. Martin Sharpless, of the Christian Church. They have five children, one of whom is dead. Eunice Patton is the widow of Robert Miller. She has children named Harry and Bessie. The children of Caleb Patton were well educated and, by moral training, fitted to become useful members of good society.

PATTON, Francis M., commercial traveler, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Happily, the time has arrived when forceful men of experience and ability are willing to give their attention to some extent to public affairs. This seems to have been the only way in which good local government could be secured and maintained. That such men are potent factors in public affairs there has latterly been plenty of evidence in Illinois and in other States. The class of men to whom reference is made do not pose as politicians and, in a purely personal way, have no political aspirations, and they are really too busy for the work which they take in hand and consent to bear the burden only because there is much to be done and some one must do it. Such an unselfish and public spirited citizen is the popular resident of Fairbury whose name appears above.

Francis M. Patton was born in Greene County, Pa., May 12, 1848, a son of Caleb L. and Orpha (Myers-Kirby) Patton. A biographical sketch of his father has place in this volume. Francis M. Patton came with his parents to Woodford County, Ill., and thence in 1856 to Livingston County. When they arrived, Fairbury had not yet been platted. He passed the days of his boyhood assisting in the work of the farm and when he could conveniently do so attending the common schools. Even as a boy he was always busy. He found early employment in carrying the chain for surveyors. In fact he saw, if he did not help to make, about all the original surveys made about Fairbury. He remembers that, when he and his father came to the place, no road had been made to the site of Fairbury from the direction of Chenoa; that their wagon

made the first track across the prairies from Chenoa to Fairbury and that they were guided by the stakes driven by the railroad surveyors who had marked out the line of the then future Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad. He quitted school to accept a clerkship in the store of Pogue and McDowell, but eventually returned to his studies. Later he became a salesman in the store of Elliotts & Co., general merchants, at Fairbury, where he was employed a number of years until he accepted a salary of ninety dollars a month in the general store of Taylor Brothers. Next, at Chicago, he found employment with Parotte, Beals & Co., wholesale jobbers hats and caps, at the corner of Market and Adams Sts. and successors of the old firm of King Brothers. Mr. Patton took stock in this Company and went on the road for the company as traveling salesman in 1882. At that time its business amounted to about \$250,000 a year. During the next twenty-five years he not only saw it grow, but assisted in securing its growth to more than one million dollars a year. When he united his fortunes with the concern it employed about fifteen commercial travelers. In time it came to employ double that number, who covered most of the United States, while the house sent many goods to British Columbia and to other outside markets. In 1900 Mr. Patton withdrew his capital from this business and began to buy land. His first purchase was 150 acres in Indiana, which he sold, buying 175 acres in Vermilion County, Ill., and 400 acres in Audrain County, Mo., the latter under a high state of cultivation. He now owns 575 acres and has leased one thousand acres in Woodford County, Ill., from his sister, Mrs. Freeman, having under his management 1575 acres devoted principally to corn, oats and grass. When it is remembered that, besides supervising this important interest he makes his regular trips as a commercial traveler and gives some attention to other affairs, it will be apparent that he must live a strenuous life.

Mr. Patton married Miss Ida Sullivan, March 22, 1870. Miss Sullivan, was born at Harper's Ferry, Va., in 1849, a daughter of the Rev. T. J. W. Sullivan, a minister of the Methodist Church and came with her parents to Fairbury in 1868. Her father died at Logansport, Ind., and her mother in Chicago. The latter's father was Armor Master at the United States Navy Yard at Harper's Ferry, and it is worthy of note that her mother was born in the Government Building at that place. Mrs. Patton is a woman of many accomplishments, and is prominent in the Methodist Church of Fairbury, of the official board of which her husband is a member. Mr. and Mrs. Patton had four children: Harry was born July 23, 1871, and is an artistic painter and designer, well established in St. Louis. He married Miss Dora Tillman, of Shelbyville, Mo., who died December 29, 1907. Winifred, who is Mrs. John Hoker, of Fairbury, has had three children, Beatrice and Lorene and another who died in infancy. Mr. Hoker is connected with the agricultural Department of Walton Brothers.

Bertha, born in Augusta, Ark., Jan. 11, 1878, married Marshall Gordon, who is a member of the firm of Walton Brothers, and has a son, Francis B. Josephine was graduated from the high school with the class of 1905, and is at Mount Carroll University, as an instructor in vocal culture, having been trained for such a position by leading musical instructors of Chicago.

It will be seen that Mr. Patton has given his children good educational advantages. He is himself a devoted student and spends most of his leisure time in his library, which is practically one of the most comprehensive in the county. It has been intimated that Mr. Patton takes a lively interest in public affairs. While he has never had any political aspirations he has not hesitated to go into action when there was a good fight pending in which he believed he could strike a blow for the right. In his absence from home his fellow Democrats nominated him for the office of County Treasurer. There was such a preponderance of Republican votes that his election was impossible, but he reduced his opponent's majority by more than six hundred. He was a delegate at large from his district to select delegates to the National Democratic Convention of 1884, which nominated Cleveland and Stevenson to the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, respectively. A delegate to the State Democratic Convention which nominated Judge Altgeld for Governor, he "went down" fighting valiantly for General Black. He has always taken an active interest in all moral movements, and is an uncompromising, unflinching supporter of the temperance cause. He is a member of Tarbolton Lodge No. 351, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of Masonic Chapter No. 99; and of Camp 6, of the Modern Woodmen of America, of Fairbury.

PATTON, Hon. George W.—An ancestry for years living and laboring in Scotland, but forced to flee thence during the era of religious persecution and seeking refuge in Ireland, from there transplanted to the free soil of America during the colonial period of our national history, forms the foundation on which is builded the resolute, indomitable and upright character of Judge George W. Patton, of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois. The course of the family westward from the more settled regions of Pennsylvania took place during 1851, when Samuel R. and Jane Patton, accompanied by their six children (one of whom was George W.) traveled by steamboat to Illinois and settled on the prairies of Woodford County. They brought a capital of \$600, which was soon invested in land, and from that time forward they labored indefatigably in the building up of an improved farm. The parents, though not highly educated, were possessed of unusual talents. The father was a man of logical mind, determined will and fine reasoning faculties that gave him ingenuity in debate. The mother spun the wool and wove the cloth from which the winter garments worn by the family were made until after the Civil

War; nor was her ability confined to domestic affairs, for in addition she was celebrated for her wit, memory, mathematical talent, and splendid command of language.

A resident of Illinois from childhood years, George W. Patton alternated work on the farm in summer with attendance at school in the winter, and his experiences were thus those of the ordinary country lad. However, his ambitions did not permit him to rest satisfied with district school education, for already his eager mind had turned towards the law as a profession. In 1871 he completed his studies at the State Normal University, at Normal, Ill., after which he taught school for two years in order to earn the money needed for a law course. He then became a student in the office of Hay, Green & Littler, prominent attorneys of Springfield, Illinois, and in January, 1875, was admitted to the bar, successfully passing an examination conducted by Judges Breese, Walker, Scott, Sheldon, McAllister, Schofield and Craig, of the Supreme Court. After the completion of his studies and his admission to the bar, he opened an office at Fairbury, where he remained until 1883. While living in that city he was united in marriage with Miss Flora E. Cook, September 20, 1877. Two children were born of their union, namely: Marie, July 7, 1883, and Proctor, March 22, 1894. The family hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In fraternal relations the Judge is identified with the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Upon his removal to Pontiac in 1883 Judge Patton was an active member of the bar until his elevation to the bench. As an attorney he always proved faithful to clients and his fidelity to their interests was never questioned. In the court-room he was fair to the witness, agreeable to the opposing counsel and courteous to judge and jury. From his mother he inherited an excellent command of language, from his father came his logical mind and persistent will, which qualities enabled him to rise rapidly in his profession, so that within ten years he was classed among the leading lawyers of the circuit. A successful attorney must have faith in himself, faith in his cause, and faith in the court of jury before whom the suit is heard; tireless labor, thoughtful study and genial disposition constitute the trinity whose benediction he must invoke. These qualifications have found exemplification in Judge Patton and have brought him a place among the most able exponents of the law in his part of the State. During 1897 he was elected one of the Judges of his district, this being the first office he had ever held. At the expiration of the term he was again elected in 1903 for another term of six years, and has since devoted his time to a judicial service that has been in perfect harmony with his record as a citizen and as an attorney.

PAULSON, Peter.—The best qualities which Denmark has to bestow upon her departing sons found expression in the industrious life of Peter Paulson, who contributed to the agricul-

tural development of Dwight for twenty-nine years, and whose death, April 14, 1906, caused regret among a large circle of friends. Mr. Paulson was born in Schleswig-Holstein November 2, 1848, and his parents, Mathias and Christina (Ingobar) Paulson, were natives of the same country when it was under Danish rule.

In his youth Mr. Paulson had the average was subject to military service upon attaining his majority. He served in the army from 1869 until 1872, and during the latter year came to the United States, where he soon after located in Dwight and sought employment on farms in that vicinity. For a number of years he rented land in the township, then bought eighty acres of improved land in Dwight Township, upon which he lived until moving to the town of Dwight in March, 1901. He was successful as a farmer and stock-raiser, and with the proceeds of the sale of his farm bought three lots and a house, there making his home and the field of his small activity until his death, April 14, 1906. He was highly esteemed by his neighbors in the country and his friends in the town, and invariably was just and honorable in his dealings with his fellow men. He is buried in Oaklawn cemetery.

The marriage of Mr. Paulson and Krestine Neilson occurred August 12, 1881, Mrs. Paulson, like her husband, having been born in Denmark, a daughter of Gens and Sophia (Genson) Neilson, who never emigrated to the United States. Mrs. Paulson came to America with her step-mother in April, 1881. She proved a rare factor in her husband's success, invariably aiding him with her economy and unfailing sympathy in times of financial depression or general misfortune. He attended the Danish Lutheran church—as does his wife—and was also a member of the Danish Brotherhood.

PEARRE, Lemuel G., farmer, grain dealer and lawyer, (deceased), Dwight, Livingston County, Ill. In their lives such men as the subject of this sketch illustrate the value and efficiency of industry, perseverance and honesty, as applied to the problem of getting on in the world and as to the influence of these qualities upon the general advancement of the communities in which they live. Mr. Pearre was born in Clermont County, Ohio, January 30, 1840, a son of Otho and Malissa (Bagby) Pearre. His father was a native of Maryland, and his mother of Virginia, and from them and from the sterling stock back of them, he inherited those qualities which enabled him to become the success that he was mentally, morally and materially. He was educated at common schools near his Ohio home, and when he was eighteen years old accompanied his parents to Livingston County, Ill. His father bought a farm near Manville, and there the son lived until 1859, or about a year from the date of his coming to this State. On March 31, in the year just mentioned, he married Miss Fannie M. Cusick, a daughter of Cyrus G. and Sardine J. (Marr) Cusick. Mr. Cusick was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y.,

and Mrs. Cusick was born near Bangor, Maine. The parents of the former were John and Mary (Perry) Cusick, natives of New York; the parents of the latter were John and Eunice Marr, natives of Maine.

During the first four years of his married life Mr. Pearre operated a rented farm. Then, removing to Dwight, he engaged in the grain trade, but gave all his spare time to the study of law. After three years he disposed of his grain business and entered upon a successful practice of his profession at Dwight. He was killed November 16, 1883, in a railroad accident on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy line near Streator, Ill., and was buried at Manville. During his childhood in Ohio he became a member of the Christian Church, but after locating in Illinois united for reasons of convenience with the Congregational Church. For many years he affiliated with the Republican party, but late in life he brought himself logically to unite his political fortunes with those of the Democratic party. He was several times elected to important offices in Dwight, which he filled with honor and integrity and to the entire satisfaction of his fellow citizens. He was a Mason and in his life clearly demonstrated the beneficent principles of that order.

Mrs. Pearre is living quietly at Dwight. Her daughter Viola, born May 26, 1860, is the wife of James Campbell of that place. Her son, Knight G. Pearre, born February 9, 1870, lives at Kankakee, Ill., and is a railroad conductor. Her daughter, Belle, born May 24, 1872, is Mrs. Theodore Hayes, of Dwight. Lou, her youngest daughter, born May 9, 1879, married William Bausa and lives at Bloomington, Ill.

PENCE, Hugh W., one of the leading representatives of the mercantile interests of Fairbury, Ill., and a man of sterling business qualities whose grasp of affairs has enabled him to attain success, was born in Chenoa, Ill., December 5, 1868, and he is a son of Jonathan J. and Emily (Welman) Pence. Jonathan J. Pence served in the Civil War, was crippled at the battle of Shiloh and died May 22, 1907. The ancestors of Mr. Pence were in the Revolution, fighting under Washington.

Mr. Pence was educated in the common schools of Fairbury, Fairbury High School, and took a special course at the University of Indiana and the Northwestern University. He entered the employ of Walton Brothers, general merchants, when a boy, serving first as cash boy, then was promoted to a clerkship. Later he became a bookkeeper. When the Walton Brothers Company was formed he became a stockholder, and is Secretary and a Director of the company. This firm is the oldest mercantile house except that of Walton Brothers and controls a very large trade throughout Livingston County. Mr. Pence's practical knowledge gained from serving in so many positions, working at first after school and on Saturdays, has been of great benefit to his present firm, and much of the success which has attended their history may be traced directly to this very fact.

As yet Mr. Pence is not married. He belongs to Tarbolton Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Fairbury Chapter R. A. M.; St. Paul Commandery No. 34, K. T.; and Mohammed Temple of Peoria, and is a very enthusiastic Mason. While not a member, he attends and liberally supports the Presbyterian church. In addition to his interest in the Walton Brothers Company, Mr. Pence owns a fine farm near Fairbury and property in other parts of the county, and his success has been attained through his own efforts, intelligently directed along legitimate channels. He is a Republican in politics, and for six years has been a member of the Board of Education, and for the past year its Secretary.

PERRINE, Charles L., born in Brown County, Ohio, February 28, 1859, one of the prosperous and progressive men of Livingston County, comes of one of the old families of this locality, and his name is identified with the development and advancement of Illinois. His father Rascellus W. Perrine, of Brown County, Ohio, removed from there to La Salle County in the fall of 1864, making the trip with a wagon. The experiences of the little family on this trip would prove very interesting reading, and certainly differed from those such a trip today would entail. Arriving in the new State, the father settled on a farm and remained there for five years, and then bought land in Livingston County, the same property now owned by Thomas Perrine just opposite the home of Charles L. Perrine. There he died on March 22, 1877, of pneumonia. His widow survived him until February 20, 1902, when she too died. Her maiden name was Eva Holman, who was a native of Brown County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Rascellus W. Perrine were the parents of three boys: Charles; Thomas, a farmer of this Township, and William W., a farmer of Norton, Kan.

Not satisfied with the education he received in the public schools of his locality, Mr. Charles L. Perrine has always embraced every opportunity of improving himself, and is now deeply interested in the study of medicine, which he is pursuing at home. He is the owner of a very fine farm, which he operates successfully and his brother Thomas is equally industrious in his work on the homestead.

On September 3, 1884, Mr. Perrine married Miss Sarah Cottrell of Ohio, at McDowell, Ill. Mrs. Perrine comes of a family identified with the agricultural interests of Ohio. One of her two brothers operates the elevator at McDowell, while the other is a farmer of Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Perrine have a daughter, Florence, now fifteen years of age, whose very decided musical talent is to be carefully cultivated. The young lady is an excellent pianist, and gives promise of developing into a genius. In religious connection the family are members of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Perrine received a college education at Valparaiso, Ind., and was teacher in public schools for five years. In politics, Mr. Perrine is a Republican, although he has not sought public preferment. Mr. and Mrs. Perrine, with their daughter, reside in their pleasant

home, and are surrounded by the comforts as well as luxuries of life, and they are always ready to give of their means and sympathy to those less fortunate, living up to the teaching of the religion they not only profess but earnestly believe.

PETERSON, Peter D., one of the successful farmers of Livingston County, who for forty-seven years has made this part of the State his home and has borne his part in the development of his neighborhood, reclaiming it from timber and swamp, was born in Norway, September 9, 1840, a son of Peter and Cordelia (Osterhouse) Peterson, both natives of Norway. The parents had eleven children, six boys and five girls. When Peter Peterson was about twenty years old he came to the United States with a brother (Rasmus) who is now in Iowa, and settled in Grundy County, Ill., where he became a farmer and stock dealer, but in 1861 removed to Livingston County, locating in Broughton Township, where he has resided for nearly half a century. Through thrift and industry he has become a very successful farmer, is the owner of 320 acres of land and through his sterling worth and integrity is one of the most respected men of his Township.

Peter Peterson is a self-educated man, the little schooling he received having been obtained in Norway, so that he had, through his own efforts, to acquire a knowledge of the English language and the new customs of his adopted country. In politics he is a Republican, while his religious affiliations are with the Lutheran church. On December 18, 1868, he married Bertha Aanenson, also a native of Norway and a daughter of Aane Aanenson and Marie Ehrneson. They have one child, Oscar, born May 14, 1874. Oscar was married on December 9, 1903, to Minnie Olson, who was born July 29, 1882, and they have one son, Lloyd, a bright little fellow born July 3, 1905. Oscar Peterson lives on the farm and supervises it, his father being practically retired after his long and useful life.

PIPER, Joseph, a prosperous farmer and leading citizen of Nevada Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in England February 1, 1888, a son of Richard and Harriet (Vasson) Piper, natives of that country. When a young man Richard Piper came to the United States, and after a short stay here went back to England, and there his marriage took place. In 1848 he returned to this country, locating on Fox River, near Newark, Kendall County, Ill., where he was employed in various ways, his last work in that county being on a farm. In 1861 he moved to Nevada Township, Livingston County, buying a farm of 160 acres northwest of Odell. Selling this, he changed his location to a point on Rook's Creek, where he purchased eighty acres of land, subsequently adding more until he owned a 200-acre farm. On this place he died in 1898, his wife having passed away in Nevada Township in 1865, leaving five children. The father took as his second wife Nancy

Ingram, by whom he had no children. In 1872 he visited his old home in England, and on his return completed his fifth passage across the Atlantic. In politics, Richard Piper was a Republican, and successfully held the offices of Highway Commissioner and Township Treasurer. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his wife being connected with the Congregational denomination. Joseph Piper passed his youth on his father's farm, his education being obtained in the common schools. Since early manhood he has followed farming and now owns 147 acres of land, on which he devotes a portion of his attention to stock raising.

Mr. Piper was married January 7, 1872, to Elizabeth M. Ingram, a native of Virginia, and eight children have resulted from this union, namely: Charles W., a farmer, born September 15, 1872; Maude, who died in infancy; Nellie, wife of William K. Landis, of Graymont, Ill.; Albert, a mail carrier, born December 23, 1876; Chester, born July 28, 1880, who is at home; Nora, who died in infancy; Olive, wife of Isaac Quigley, a farmer; and Vernie H., born April 11, 1890.

In politics Mr. Piper is a Republican, and was first elected Supervisor in 1882, serving one year. He is now the incumbent of that office, the present term being the fourth in succession with which his fellow townsmen have honored him. He also acted in the capacity of Township Collector for four years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

PRATT, Anson K., long a successful farmer in the vicinity of Chatsworth, Ill., a greatly respected citizen and a gallant soldier of the Civil War, now living on his fine property in comfortable retirement, was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., December 6, 1839. His parents were Asa and Emeline (Kidder) Pratt, natives of New York State. Asa Kidder, who died in 1874, was a prominent Republican politician in his locality. He and his wife had three sons and one daughter. The family moved to Illinois in 1845, settling in Lake County where Anson K. Pratt remained until he was twenty-one years old. In December, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Forty-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, his term expiring December 24, 1864, when he was mustered out of service. He fought at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, and took part in the Atlanta campaign, marching with Sherman to the sea. On returning from war he located in Livingston County, near Chatsworth, where he acquired a valuable farm of forty acres, operating it with profitable results up to the time of his withdrawal from active pursuits. He also owns valuable city property.

Mr. Pratt has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was united on February 19, 1865, was Mary Reynolds, born in the State of New York. After her decease he was wedded to Alice Brigham, a native of the same State.

In politics, Mr. Pratt is a Democrat, as are also his two brothers. His religious faith is

in harmony with the Universalist church. He is a member of E. G. Trask Post, 388, Grand Army of the Republic.

PRESLER, Dr. Henry A., was born near Montpelier, Williams County, Ohio, August 22, 1869. He is of German descent, his great grandfather having been born in Germany. His grandfather, Steven Presler, a native of Center County, Pa., was a miller by trade, who married in 1815 Susan Kuhus, a native of the same county. Emigrating to Ohio about the year 1820, they located in Richland County, that State, entering the last piece of government land subject for entry in that county. His wife died in 1860, and he then disposed of his farm and, in 1864, moved to Iowa, and soon after to the neighborhood of Winamac, Pulaski County, Ind., where he remained one year. His health failing, he then disposed of his property there, and returned to Richland County, Ohio, dying there in the year 1866.

Samuel Presler, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Richland County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. Learning the carpenter's trade, he followed the double occupation of farming and carpentering until the year 1868, when he moved to Williams County, Ohio, locating on a farm near Montpelier where he resided until 1907. In religious matters he was identified with the Church of God. He was married to Miss Keziah C. Weir, a native of Stark County, Ohio, whose great-great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, being one of the unfortunates who were captured by the British and imprisoned in one of their infamous prisonships in New York harbor. Mrs. Presler died in August, 1898. To this union were born three sons—Isaiah W., Hiram M. and Henry A. Isaiah W. was born near Oliversburg, Ohio, January 15, 1864, and is now a practicing lawyer at Montpelier, O. Hiram M., also born at Oliversburg, Ohio, in the year 1866, when three years of age was taken by his parents to the vicinity of Montpelier, where he grew to manhood. After attending and teaching school for some time, he began the study of medicine, finally graduating from The Scudder-Eclectic Institute, of Cincinnati. He is now practicing at Cullom, Ill.

Henry A., the subject of this sketch, spent his boyhood on the farm attending the district school, and later the Montpelier High School and Montpelier Academy. After teaching one year he entered the Veterinary Department of the Ohio State University, which he attended one year. The following year he took up his studies at the Chicago, Veterinary College, graduating in 1893, in the honor class.

After graduating he accepted a position with Dr. C. E. Sayre, who was then Professor of the chair of dentistry in the Chicago Veterinary College, with whom he practiced the following summer, after which he located at Chatsworth, Ill., in independent practice, where he remained for ten months. In May, 1894, he came to Fairbury and purchased the practice of Dr. N. I. Stringer. He has since resided in Fairbury where

he has built up a large practice in this and adjoining counties. Dr. Presler is an enthusiastic member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, also the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association of which he has held the office of President and Vice-President. Dr. Presler was appointed Assistant State Veterinarian which in itself is a recognition of his ability as a practitioner. He is a Republican in politics.

June 17, 1896, Dr. Presler married Miss Alma Ogle of Montpelier, a daughter of Robert and Margaret (Hoverstock) Ogle. To them were born four children—Ruth M., born March 28, 1898; Leland P., born June 2, 1900; Beatrice M., born May 7, 1903; Harold S., born Dec. 16, 1904.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Presler are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Dr. Presler was for three years a member of the Board of Education, and in all local affairs of public moment he takes a helpful interest.

PRICER, Samuel M.—The association of Samuel M. Pricer with Livingston County dated from the early part of the Civil War until his death, December 22, 1903, at the age of nearly eighty years. His life work embraced chiefly merchandising and agriculture, in both of which he excelled, and the farm that he cultivated in Avoca Township and the home he owned and beautified in Pontiac during the years of his retirement, express his industry and resourcefulness, and his striving after the practical results of life.

Born in Ross County, Ohio, February 16, 1828, Mr. Pricer, on both sides of his family, was of German descent, his immigrating forefathers having settled in the State of Pennsylvania, where his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Benner) Pricer were born in the vicinity of Philadelphia. From the first an enquiring and earnest student, his boyhood days were spent among the hills, and in addition to the public schools he attended the South Salem Seminary, at South Salem, Ohio. Diligence in both study and observation qualified him as a teacher while still in his teens, and at the age of eighteen years he exchanged teaching for the position of clerk and bookkeeper in a mercantile establishment. Four years later, having acquired much practical experience in merchandising, he established a store of his own in partnership with Jacob Benner, continuing thus for five years, and at the end of that time purchasing the interest of his partner and continuing alone for several years.

In 1862 Mr. Pricer came from Ohio to Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., and settled on 460 acres of land, the greater part of which was wild prairie. This he rented out for stock purposes until 1873, while he himself traveled around the country for his health, spending some time in St. Louis and other Southern cities. Once established on the farm, he cleared and tilled it, and made it one of the most beautiful and valuable in the township. He took special pride in that part of it which did not

contribute to his financial gain, but which ministered to his sense of harmony and proportion through the medium of trees and shrubs and delightful vistas. He took an active interest in the general welfare of the township, was prominent in Republican politics, served eight years as Supervisor, and held many other offices of trust and responsibility. Of excellent habits himself, he appreciated and encouraged moderation and morality in others, and especially was a forceful promoter of the cause of temperance, and served as chairman of the Blue Ribbon Society of Avoca Township. He was reared a Presbyterian and continued to support that church all of his life, also taking a keen and practical interest in the Sunday School.

In 1896 Mr. Pricer bought four lots in Pontiac on North Main Street, erected a large and comfortable residence, in which he spent the rest of his life. In the meantime he derived a comfortable competence from the rent of the farm which still is owned by his widow, formerly Mary E. Latham, and whom he married in Washington, Fayette County, Ohio, in May, 1856. Mrs. Pricer was born in Grafton County, N. H., August 23, 1835, a daughter of William and Eliza (Converse) Latham, and granddaughter of Robert and Mary (Pike) Latham, and Lyman Converse, all natives of New Hampshire. Mrs. Pricer has no children, but her interests are many, and her charity unbounded. She is much beloved for her sincerity and trustworthy character, and has many friends both in town and county.

PUFFER, John Q., a prosperous grain and coal dealer, of Chatsworth, Livingston County, Ill., began business in his present locality in 1900, and in the following year erected a grain elevator having a capacity of 25,000 bushels, from which he has since shipped from 600,000 to 700,000 bushels of grain per annum. Mr. Puffer was formerly a stockholder in, and President of, the Peoria & Eastern Telephone Company, operating five exchanges, located in Chatsworth, Forrest, Fairbury, Washington and El Paso.

Mr. Puffer was born in Chatsworth Township, November 11, 1866. His parents, Daniel B. and Ellen (Lambourn) Puffer—the former of English nativity and the latter born in Massachusetts—were married in Putnam County, Ill., the father having been brought to that country in 1846 when six years of age. The paternal grandfather, Samuel S. Puffer, was proprietor of a tavern on the stage coach line running out of Mt. Palatine, Putnam County. Daniel B. Puffer settled in Chatsworth Township about the year 1864, developing a new farm from the prairie soil. In that vicinity both of his parents spent the remainder of their lives, the grandfather being eighty-four years old at the time of his decease. The father operated the homestead place for seven years, removing at the end of that period to another farm situated a mile and a half west of Chatsworth, of which he still retains the title, although he has lived in retirement in

the village of Chatsworth since 1897. He and his wife reared three children, namely: Ella, wife of James Barnes, of Chatsworth; Florence, who married William Cunington, of the same place; and J. Q.

The subject of this sketch followed farming until he went into the grain trade, and still has an interest in the old homestead property consisting of 400 acres, he and his father renting it out. John Q. Puffer was married February 15, 1894, to Emma Wingert, of Chicago, a daughter of Rev. J. P. Wingert, of the Evangelical church, who had been a minister of that denomination in Chatsworth for three years. Two children have resulted from this union—Eva Gertrude, and Alfred—the latter dying at the age of four years. Mr. Puffer is fond of recreation and travel, and has visited the Pacific coast, fishing at Santa Catalina Island and bringing back with him photographs of sharks and other large fish which abound in that quarter.

Politically, Mr. Puffer is a Republican. His religious faith is that of the Baptist church, in which he has acted as Sunday School Superintendent for about seven years. His grandfather was one of the original thirteen members of the Baptist church in Chatsworth Township, officiating as deacon up to the time of his death, and the family have always been active in church work. Both as a farmer and business man, John Q. Puffer has been very successful, and is recognized as one of the leading citizens of Chatsworth.

PURSLEY, John (deceased).—One of the sturdy pioneers of Livingston County who, for over forty years made the county his home and actively participated in the wonderful improvements which were developed within its borders, was the late John Pursley, who was born in New York City, June 2, 1832, and died in 1900, aged sixty-eight years. He was a son of Mary and Godfray (Pursley) Pursley, both natives of Germany who had seven children, two boys and five girls.

While still young Mr. Pursley moved from New York to Chicago, then to Ottawa and from there to Dayton, LaSalle County, whence he came to Livingston County in 1867. For ten years prior to locating in Livingston County, Mr. Pursley worked for John Green in LaSalle County, and then took up land, which he subsequently developed converting it into a very fine farm which is in the possession of his widow at present. In religion Mr. Pursley was a Catholic, and a man widely known and highly respected.

In 1855 Mr. Pursley married Anna M. Eferling, whose parents were natives of the region of the Rhine, Germany. Mrs. Pursley was one of twelve children, and she and her husband also had twelve children, as follows: John, of Lafayette, Ind.; Charley, a farmer of Minnesota; George, connected with the agricultural works at Strawn, Livingston County; Peter, a farmer of South Dakota; Joseph M., a farmer of North Dakota;

Mrs. Louisa Murphey, of Forrest, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Doolin, of Pontiac; Rosa, at home; Carrie, who married James Flanery, a farmer of North Dakota; Mrs. Jane Witzberger, of Strawn, Ill.; Mrs. Elizabeth Flanery, who married a farmer of North Dakota, and one daughter, deceased. Mrs. Pursley is a lady of advanced years who lives on the home place, tenderly cared for by her daughter Miss Rosa, a devoted nurse and companion. The family are members of the Catholic church and they all stand high in the community.

RABE, William Louis, M. D., a physician of high standing residing in Dwight, Ill., was born near Steubenville, Ohio, a son of John and Elizabeth (Luce) Rabe. His elementary education was obtained chiefly under the instruction of his father, an intelligent farmer and school teacher. John Rabe was born in Pennsylvania, where he fitted himself for the work of a teacher, following that occupation in winter and farming in summer. In 1820 he moved to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he died in 1872. After completing his primary studies, Dr. Rabe was trained in the higher branches, first taking a course in Richmond College and later matriculating in Cleveland Medical University. He began the practice of his profession in Wellsville, Ohio, the principal portion of which was situated on the Virginia side of the Ohio River. During the Civil War he served as assistant surgeon of an Ohio regiment, and was wounded at the time of the capture of Gen. John Morgan, in Columbiana County, Ohio, who occupied the Doctor's bed on the night after he was made prisoner. In 1862, Dr. Rabe was elected president of Richmond College, a position which he filled two years when he resigned. In 1865, he matriculated in both McCormick Theological Seminary and Rush Medical College, in Chicago, and two years later received a diploma from each of the institutions, when he accepted a call from the First Presbyterian Church, of Bloomington, Ill., locating there in 1867 and remaining nine years. During this pastorate, he was a delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, held in the state capitol at Madison, Wis. In 1876 he moved to Dwight, Ill., where he has since acquired one of the largest and most lucrative medical practices in that section of the state. He is a constant reader of the best medical literature of the day, and is noted in medical circles as a valued contributor to the standard medical journals. He is a member of the State and Inter-state Medical Societies and the American Medical Association and a correspondent of the World's Congress.

In 1867, Dr. Rabe was married to Emma Clay Temple, of Bloomington, Ill., whose parents were natives of Virginia, her mother being a lineal descendant of the Parke Custis or George Washington family. Mrs. Rabe died in 1888, leaving the following children: Mildred, Mrs. Howlett Barnes, of Syracuse, N. Y.; William Louis, of Dwight, Ill., a conductor on the Chicago & Alton Railroad; Clarence Parke, of Chi-

cago, who is in the real estate, loan and insurance business; and Lucille, who is at home with her father. The eldest daughter studied music two years under Prof. Phelps, of Chicago, and has been for years a salaried soloist in the First Presbyterian Church of Syracuse, N. Y., and has devoted her attention to church musical service and kindred engagements, and is now the wife of Charles W. Barnes, a capitalist of Syracuse. Her sister is also a singer of unusual ability.

The paternal grandfather of Dr. Rabe was Capt. Jacob Rabe, a soldier of the War of 1812 and a brother of the famous Rabe sisters, of Germany, who, in the early '30s and '40s, twice crossed the ocean to delight the New York people with songs and melodies of their fatherland. Jacob Rabe lived to reach the venerable age of 100 years and three months. He was born in Prussia and came to this country about the beginning of the eighteenth century, settling near the little town of Monongahela City, Pa., where he reared a family of three children.

Dr. Rabe has always been the firm defender of the regular and rational practice of medicine, and a leading assailant of the "fakes" and patent or secret medicine iniquities. He is the author of monographs, several medical treatises, published addresses and recondite contributions to medical periodicals, which have brought him honorable mention in the "Encyclopedia of American Biography," "The American Statesman," and American Academy of Medicine. He is as conservative in medical practice as in theory, he has an intense aversion to artful and sinister dealing of any kind, and is an uncompromising but honest opponent on any issue when he believes he is in the right. He is greatly esteemed by the people of Dwight and the country surrounding, both as a physician and as a man, and is regarded as a public-spirited and useful member of the community.

RABER, John, a retired farmer now living in Gridley, Livingston County, Ill., and the owner of one of the largest and finest farms in the county, was born in McLean County, Ill., May 20, 1856, a son of John and Barbara (Nafziger) Raber, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in the early half of the last century, locating at first in Ohio. About the year 1850 they journeyed to Illinois, making their home on a farm in McLean County, where they lived nearly twenty-five years. In 1875 they moved to Livingston County, where the father died April 13, 1893, the mother surviving him until August 26, 1902, when she, too, passed away. Their family consisted of five sons and one daughter, of whom four children are still living. In politics, John Raber, Sr., was a supporter of the Republican party, and he and his wife were members of the Mennonite church. The subject of this sketch passed his early youth on his father's farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools. At the age of sixteen years he began work on a farm in Pike Township, Livingston County, and this locality has since been his home. He

is the owner of 380 acres of land, and for twenty-two years has been engaged in breeding Percheron horses. His farming operations have been very successful, and he is classed among the most prosperous farmers in his portion of the county.

In 1879 Mr. Raber was joined in matrimony with Lizzie Ehresman, born in Livingston County, a daughter of Christian and Magdalena (Wagner) Ehresman, who were early settlers of the county. The father of Mrs. Raber died on the farm where she now lives, and her mother died in Waldo Township. Mr. and Mrs. Raber became the parents of five children, as follows: William M., born July 30, 1880; Levi Edward, born December 25, 1883; Minnie, born June 19, 1885; Mabel Lena, born August 3, 1891; and Elsie May, born December 7, 1895. The eldest son, William M., received his education in the common schools, and is now operating 220 acres of land. Besides general farming he is engaged in stock-raising, and is a breeder of Percheron horses. He was married in September, 1904, to Catherine Erb, born in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, and a daughter of Christian and Anna (Springer) Erb. Mr. Erb came from Canada, and his wife is a native of Livingston County. He died in 1900, and she is living in Nebraska, her home being in Hamilton County, that State. William M. Raber and wife have one daughter, Alverda May, born August 23, 1905. Levi E., the second son of John Raber, is also a farmer. He was educated in the common schools of his district, and was married to Minnie King, of McLean County. He and his wife have one child, Clark Burnell. Minnie Raber, the eldest daughter of the subject of this sketch, and her sister Mabel L., have received a common school education, and are at home, while Elsie M., the youngest, is a student in the Gridley High School.

In politics, John Raber is a Republican, and in religious faith he and the members of his family are Mennonites.

REED, Edward O.—Some men are destined to rise above their associates, and are fitted to hold offices of public trust and responsibility. They understand and grasp quickly the essentials of government, and are capable of effecting many much needed reforms. They not only successfully conduct large business enterprises, but represent the interests of the people in various legislative bodies. Such a man is Edward O. Reed, senior member of the old established firm of Reed and Riess, cigar manufacturers of Pontiac, Livingston County, Ill., and one of the most public-spirited men and public officials of that city.

Mr. Reed was born in Bloomington, Ill., June 12, 1860, a son of Henry B. and Esther (Beck) Reed. Henry B. Reed was born January 29, 1833, in Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, Pa., while his wife was born in Lehighon, Carbon County, Pa., May 25, 1825. By trade Henry B. Reed was a shoemaker.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Henry B.

Reed was the first Livingston County man to enlist, going to Joliet where he enlisted as a private in Company D, Twentieth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to Second Lieutenant for services rendered at the battle of Ft. Donelson, receiving a Reward of Merit from Governor Yates, the War Governor of Illinois. Sometime after the battle of Shiloh he resigned and came home on account of sickness. A few days after arriving at home he was summoned to Springfield by Gov. Yates and commissioned to assist in organizing three companies in Livingston County, finally succeeding in organizing five companies. Later he was unanimously chosen Captain of Company G, One Hundred Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, and served in that capacity until the close of the war.

Edward O. Reed, the son and subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Pontiac, Ill., and after he left school he learned the business of cigar making, and has followed it ever since, eventually forming the firm of Reed and Riess, of which he is senior member. This firm does a very large business, manufacturing cigars, and controls a most excellent trade, which extends over a wide area. Their special brands are "Golden Legend" and "American Rose."

Mr. Reed is a very prominent Republican, and has been honored by his party in various ways. In 1890 he was elected Alderman from the Third Ward of Pontiac, and while a member of the Council, was on the Finance Committee and was instrumental in having put in a complete water and sewer system for the city. He was elected Assistant Supervisor of Pontiac Township in 1892, and appointed a member of the Finance Committee of that body. During his term of office, a County House for the unfortunate poor and insane was built at a cost of \$50,000. In 1894 he was elected Sheriff of Livingston County and County Treasurer in 1898, and faithfully and ably discharged the duties pertaining to both these important offices, and effecting many much-needed reforms. He was appointed a member of the County Board of Review both in 1903 and 1904, and has been chosen six times as Chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, which position he occupies at the present time, and has succeeded in having elected every nominee of the Republican party for county office during this period. No mere words can adequately portray the immense service Mr. Reed has rendered his constituents, both in public office and as a member of the party whose principles he has ever ardently supported. He is a live, energetic, capable man, and one who thoroughly understands the political situation, and his people will not allow him to rest upon the laurels he has already won, but will keep on demanding further service from him, realizing that they can find no one better fitted to represent them.

Mr. Reed is a Mason and has attained to the Knights Templar degree. He is also a member of the order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen, the

Court of Honor and Sons of Veterans Camp No. 100, and is as popular in these organizations, as he is in every other walk of life.

On December 15, 1897, Mr. Reed was married in Chicago, Ill., to Miss Eunice Stott, who was born in White Pigeon, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Reed have had the following family: Esther Rosamond, born Sept. 24, 1898; Edna Orissa, born June 8, 1900; John Stott, born October 16, 1901; and Thomas Beck, born March 1, 1904.

RICH, Jeffrey A.—The history of any locality is to be read in the lives of its residents, and the state of development attained is largely due to the efforts of those who have made their homes within its confines. Livingston County is no exception to this general rule, for coincident with its advancement occur the names of its old families, among whom may be mentioned the Rich and Spafford names. Jeffrey A. Rich, born in Somersetshire, England, March 27, 1851, belongs to one of these families and he married into another. When a lad of about four years, he was brought to the United States by his parents, James T. and Mary Ann Parrott Rich, in 1855. The little family first settled on a farm in Lake County, Ill., coming to this State direct from New York City, where they landed. James T. Rich was a farmer and builder in England, but when he moved to Livingston County in 1864 he began farming and, three years later, took up a farm upon which Jeffrey A. Rich now resides. Here the old father died on March 7, 1895, having attained to the venerable age of eighty-two years. The mother, who was also a native of England, survived him until July 4, 1896, when she too passed away, aged eighty-four years. Six children were born to these parents, four boys and two girls, of whom three boys and one girl survive. The latter is now Mrs. M. L. Paddock and resides in Saunemin. One brother was killed at Chickamauga during the Civil War. The two brothers living are John, who resides in Saunemin, and Joseph P., who resides in Stuttgart, Ark.

Jeffrey A. Rich was reared upon the homestead which is now his property, and attended the district school. He also studied architecture in conjunction with learning the trade of a cabinet-maker, but has really devoted the major portion of his time to farming and now owns, together with his wife, a fine property of 390 acres of most excellent land well suited for his purposes. Their home is pleasantly located just outside Saunemin, and there they welcome their many friends with cordial hospitality.

On December 25, 1880, Mr. Rich was united in marriage with Mary Spafford, who was born in Indiana, but brought to Illinois when but a child. Her family has been connected with the county's history for half a century. She is a daughter of Robert S. and Lucy (Hill) Spafford. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rich, although but two boys survive—Thomas J. married Della Shaw and they reside on one of the homestead farms. George W. is at home and both are engaged in farming. The

family are Methodists in religious belief. In politics Mr. Rich is a Republican, although he has never taken a very active part in public affairs, preferring to give his time to his farm. Through well directed effort, industry and thrift, Mr. Rich has accumulated a handsome competency, and they may well be proud of the success which has attended them.

RIECK, John, who has successfully followed farming in Livingston County, Ill., nearly thirty years, making a record as one of the most energetic, persevering and successful farmers of his locality, was born in what was then the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, December 23, 1857. He is a son of William and Charlotte (Themnitz) Rieck, both natives of Prussia, where the birth of the father took place February 24, 1823, and that of the mother, October 24, 1825. William Rieck was a farmer in the fatherland, and also served eighteen months in the German army previous to his coming to the United States. He and his wife came to this country in 1879, one year after his son John had located in Livingston County, making his home with the latter and farming on rented land. He died in 1900. The worthy widow still survives and is living with one of her sons. John Rieck received a common-school education in Germany, and attended night school after emigrating to these shores. He was twenty-one years of age when he landed in New York City, where he found employment as a stone-mason. After continuing a year in the stone works he came to Livingston County, Ill., and for twelve years, was engaged in farming on land in Nevada Township, which he rented from David McWilliams, of Dwight. In 1893 he moved to Esmen Township, where he bought 180 acres of land, afterwards purchasing more until his farm now comprises 260 acres. All the buildings on this place are the result of his enterprise, and he has otherwise greatly improved it. In 1904 he built a substantial, spacious and convenient modern residence, in which all the members of his family comfortably and happily dwell.

At Nevada, Ill., on October 12, 1888, Mr. Rieck was joined in bonds of matrimony with Lucy Krimer, a daughter of William and Sophia (Lang) Krimer, who was born in Livingston County, Ill., January 10, 1870. Seven children have resulted from this union, namely: Henry, Charles, Fred, Minnie, Emma, Elsie and Amy, all of whom are at home.

In political affairs, Mr. Rieck takes an independent course, not mingling to any extent in active politics, and not desiring public offices. He has, however, served as School Director. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Court of Honor. He and his excellent wife are members of the Presbyterian church. John Rieck has made his own way in the world, beginning with very small financial resources; but through industry, economy and honesty, has amassed a snug competency, becoming one of the leading farmers in the northern part of Livingston County.

RIGGS, Miles S., manager of the Ab Lumber Company, of Pontiac, Ill., and a leading citizen of Pontiac, is a native of the same city, where he was born December 16, 1863, a son of Harvey and Sarah (Clyler) Riggs, the former born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and the latter in Pennsylvania. In 1855 they came to Dwight, Ill., and in the following year to Pontiac. The paternal grandfather was an old time resident of Dwight. For two years the father was in the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, and subsequently, for thirty years, acted in the capacity of manager for A. F. Fisher, an extensive lumber dealer, of Pontiac. Harvey Riggs died in 1904, and his wife is now a resident of Chicago. Politically, he was a supporter of the Democratic party, and served two terms as alderman. He was a member of the Baptist Church, to which his widow also belongs. They became the parents of two sons and ten daughters, and of this family seven are now living. Miles S. Riggs was reared in Pontiac, and received his education in the public schools, after which he learned the trade of a cigar maker. Finding this not to his liking, he began working in S. O. Pillsbury's lumber yard, remaining there until that gentleman went out of business. Then he became foreman of the lumber yards of the G. L. Vandenen Company, continuing thus until the company sold out in 1894. Since that time this concern has been known as the Alex Lumber Company, and Mr. Riggs has been its manager since 1906. He owns a fine residence at No. 617 West Madison Street, Pontiac.

In 1893 Mr. Riggs was united in marriage with Anna Erickson, born in Livingston County, Ill., and a daughter of Andrew Erickson, a farmer and an early settler in the county. The father of Mrs. Riggs is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Riggs have three children, namely: Lloyd Earl, Anetta Belle and Miles.

Politically, Mr. Riggs is classed as independent, and has served three terms as alderman in Pontiac. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order Odd Fellows, Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Riggs is a member of the Lutheran Church.

ROGERS, A. Wilmer, one of the best known, most prosperous and highly respected farmers in the vicinity of the town of Forrest, Livingston County, Ill., was born in LaSalle County, Ill., March 30, 1867, a son of Sidney C. and Mercy (Nickerson) Rogers, natives of Massachusetts. The birth of Sidney C. Rogers occurred on Cape Cod, and he followed the sea until he reached the age of twenty-one years. After his seafaring life was over he became a carpenter, continuing this occupation until he moved to Illinois, when he turned his attention to farming. In 1870 he settled in Livingston County, and two years later located on the Rogers' homestead. He and his wife were the parents of four sons and four daughters, of whom two of the sons only are living. the brother of the subject of this sketch being a

builder in Colorado Springs. The father died in 1892, but his widow still survives and is a resident of the village of Forrest. Sidney C. Rogers was a Republican in politics, and was influential in the local councils of his party, holding several township offices.

A. Wilmer Rogers was reared on the home farm, educated in the district schools, and has successfully followed farming from early manhood. On March 8, 1893, he was married to Etta Moulton, a native of Iowa, and their union has resulted in three sons and one daughter, namely: Harold, Walter K., Howard, and Rosetta, aged fourteen, eleven, nine and seven years, respectively.

Politically, Mr. Rogers is a Republican. His religious connection is with the Congregational church. In fraternal circles he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 1046, and the Court of Honor.

ROSE, Bert L., of Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., is a blacksmith and horseshoer by trade, who maintains a high reputation in his particular vocation. People who own good horses have learned by expensive experience that the care of the horses' hoofs should not be left to careless and inexperienced blacksmiths. Horseshoeing has come to be a science, and only men of long and careful experience should be entrusted with it. The successful horseshoer must be something more than a good mechanic, for his work partakes somewhat of the nature of some of the work of the scientist and veterinary surgeon.

Bert L. Rose was born at Campbellsville, Taylor County, Ky., November 8, 1869, a son of Isaac V. and Sarah Rose, natives of Pennsylvania. His parents were married in the Keystone State and emigrated thence to Kentucky, where Mr. Rose, who had been a cooper, found employment as a shoemaker. There they remained until 1872, when they removed to Livingston County, Ill., settling on a farm northeast of Forrest, where Mr. Rose planted and garnered successfully until 1884. He then moved to Adams, Neb., and remained there until 1890, when he came back to Livingston County. In 1892 he moved to Fairbury, where he lived until January 27, 1904, when he died. His widow survives him. He has been almost a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which she is still identified. There were born to them twelve children, of whom Bert L., was the youngest and of whom eleven are yet living.

The immediate subject of this sketch had scant opportunities for securing an education. As has been seen, his father had a large family to support, and even as a child, he realized that it was incumbent on him to take care of himself, if possible, in order to lighten his parents' burden. When he was eight years old, he found employment on Mrs. Young's farm, northwest of Fairbury, at thirty-five cents a day. He was a willing worker and soon developed into an effective one. When he was ten years old he was regarded as a "hand" at any labor on a

farm, or even at other heavy work, and from that time his services were in demand. He bound on an old Marsh harvester, when he was so short that he was obliged to stand on sheaves of grain in order to reach its table. Accompanying his parents to Nebraska, he worked there on a horse ranch owned by the McCulley Brothers. In his farm work he had become accustomed to handling horses, and hence took very handily to that employment. Afterward for three years he was employed in a blacksmith and machine shop. In 1890 he was given a place in the blacksmith shop of Jonas Lough, one of the best all-around blacksmiths in Livingston County, who was able to do anything that was required of him to any piece of iron that might be brought to him. Young Rose was a natural mechanic, and under such an able instructor he made rapid progress as an iron worker, but naturally, perhaps because of his very considerable experience with horses, made a specialty of horseshoeing. For eighteen years he has worked at his trade at Fairbury, and during all that time has given much attention to breaking and training horses, has handled some of the best horses in Central Illinois and owns some of the best roadsters in the State, such as "Senator," "Wilkes," "Brownie Wilton," "Royal Spinks" and "Picket," and he now owns "Sheby Sherbert," a horse that comes of as good strain as any in the West and has a speed of 2:16 on the track.

Having long made the foot of the horse a study, Mr. Rose has gained expert knowledge of it, which enables him in shoeing often to overcome a horse's lameness and materially to help it in its travel. In his specialty he has built up a reputation second to that of no man in the State. If he diagnoses a case, his judgment is accepted without question and his recommendations are acted upon. He has probably bought and sold for track work more good breed horses than any one else in all the country round about, and his judgment of a horse goes for cash in any market.

Mr. Rose married Miss Viola E. Lough, a daughter of his old instructor, August 28, 1893, and she has borne him three children: Ursel, born April 19, 1895; Harold, born February 12, 1897; Bertie, born April 9, 1900. Mrs. Rose was born at Fairbury and numbers among its best people many warm friends. Politically, Mr. Rose affiliates with the Republican party, but is without political aspirations and, though he has been often solicited to accept office, he definitely declines such honor, preferring to give all his time to his business. He is public spirited in a broad sense, and has at heart the growth and prosperity of Fairbury. He is a member of the Yeomen of America and of the North American Accident Company. Truly a self-made man, he has, by his honesty and his upright life, won the confidence of the entire community.

ROTH, Daniel, retired farmer, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. It is probable that the fam-

ily of Roth, of which the subject of this sketch is a member, has as fairly illustrated the value of German blood in American citizenship as any other family has done in Central Illinois. German thrift, industry and patriotism are proverbial; but there have been some examples of these qualities more striking than others. In his individual career, Daniel Roth has exemplified the virtue of family affection and of Christian character. Born in Tazewell County, Ill., July 26, 1852, a son of Andrew and Anna (Zimmerman) Roth, natives of Germany, he is a truly representative American, and has achieved a worthy success. Andrew Roth, after the death of his father, came from Germany to America and, locating near Cincinnati, went to work on a farm to earn money to bring his mother, three brothers and two sisters to this country. Small as were his earnings, they were probably very considerable when compared with those of his brothers in Germany. The family, being finally reunited, settled in Tazewell and Woodford Counties, and all its male members became well-to-do farmers. Daniel Roth, the youngest of the brothers, is the only one of the original family now living. The others were Peter, who died in Woodford County; Nicholas, who died in Tazewell County; Garber, died near Pekin, Ill.; Barbara, married a Mr. Stecker and died in Tazewell County, all of them leaving families.

Anna Zimmerman came from Germany to America with her parents, who located near Cincinnati, and there she met and married Andrew Roth and there two of her children were born. Thence she came with her husband and children in a big wagon, which also contained her scanty household effects, to Tazewell County where, in 1845, Andrew Roth bought forty acres of timberland on which he built a log cabin with a roof of split clapboards, into which he moved his family. He had the land to clear, and improve, and he entered upon the task with characteristic energy and farmed with such success, that eventually he was able to buy 120 acres more, bringing his holding up to 160 acres. He made a good farm on which he established a comfortable and attractive home in which he and his family remained until 1871, when he sold the property to his brother Nicholas, from whom it has descended to one of his grandsons. He had bought 240 acres of land in Belle Prairie Township, Livingston County, onto which he moved, later buying 240 acres more, making a total of 480 acres, which he developed into a productive farm and managed with great success until 1886, when he died. His wife died in 1885. They were devoted members of the German Apostolic Church, and Mr. Roth was not only a kind and indulgent father, but to very many a friend in need, and **more than one** was helped by him to secure a home in Livingston County.

Andrew and Anna (Zimmerman) Roth were parents of the following named children: Nicholas is a retired farmer living at Strawn, Livingston County; Anna married Jacob Cehr of Indian Grove Township, but is deceased; Barbara

married Christian Garber of Belle Prairie Township, an elder of the Amish church; Peter is farming near Iantha, Mo.; John is a merchant at Wellington, Kan.; Catherine lives in Fairbury; Samuel is a farmer in Belle Prairie Township. These children had Christian parents, were given Christian training, and all through their lives have perhaps unconsciously borne witness to that fact.

Daniel Roth divided his time in his boyhood between helping upon the farm and attending district schools. He came with his father's family to Livingston County, in 1871, when he was about nineteen years old, and was a member of it for nine years afterward. He married Catherine Hearstein, August 1, 1880, and their married life continued twenty years until 1900, when she died as a Christian dies, regretted by all who had known her. Because of her failing health, Mr. Roth had retired from the farm in 1892. Later, he married Clara Herzog, who has borne him three children: Clara, Daniel, and Edwin, the latter in 1905. He now owns 240 acres of land in Belle Prairie Township and four acres southeast of Fairbury, aggregating 244 acres. The land adjoining Fairbury includes his beautiful home. Mrs. Roth is associated with the German Apostolic Church, and although Mr. Roth is not a member of that organization, its faith is his and he is a regular attendant upon its services and liberal in his assistance of its various interests. As a farmer Mr. Roth has achieved a very notable success. While devoting his attention chiefly to general farming, he has given considerable attention to stock. His farm is one of the best appointed in his part of the county. As a citizen he has been distinguished for public spirit and helpfulness to all worthy causes. As a man he has been eminently fair in all his dealings, charitable in his views of the actions of others, and ever ready to extend a helping hand to the needy and the struggling. He has lived a busy and useful life, in which he has done good all along the way; and as he glances back over the road that he has traveled, he sees little that he should regret and much that should be to him a source of satisfaction.

RUSSELL, Cyrus Woods (deceased).—The roll call of men whose patience, endurance and ability helped to convert Livingston County into the ideal of agricultural prosperity, contains no name more honored than that of Cyrus Woods Russell. Mr. Russell passed from the ken of those who had known and loved him, March 13, 1898. However, the total loss of sight, for a time, from which he partially recovered after an operation by Dr. Buffin of Chicago, and the diminishing of his physical powers, failed to rob him of that patience and intrepidity which had led him far afield in the early days even to the gold mines which lured the fortune-seekers to the coast in the middle of the last century.

The family of Mr. Russell was one of the very early ones in the vicinity of Circleville, Ohio,

where he was born May 18, 1828. His father, William Russell, a young and unmarried man came all the way overland from his native state of West Virginia to Ohio, and there was married to Elizabeth McArthur, with whom, and several of his children, he removed to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, in the early 'forties. In Indiana, Cyrus Woods helped on the paternal farm, but finally moved to Avoca, Livingston County, Ill., where he contracted the gold fever and joined other young men of the community in an overland journey to the Pacific Coast. This little band traveled for about six months across plains and mountains in ox-carts, and Mr. Russell remained among the mines until 1856, when he returned to Illinois by way of Panama and New York, having made a fair success of his Western trip. With the money thus acquired, he purchased a farm in Owego Township, and later, having well prospered by his industry and enterprise, added to his holdings farms in the adjacent townships of Avoca, Eppards Point and Pontiac, and, although earlier he had learned the wheelwright and wagon-maker's trade, he thereafter devoted his energy to improving his farms and raising stock, succeeding so well that he amassed a comfortable competence. Owing to an affection of eyes, which resulted in a period of total blindness, of which he was later at least partially relieved as above stated, he left the farm in 1891, taking up his residence in Pontiac, where he bought the home now occupied by his surviving family. In 1892 he sold a part of his holdings, reserving eighty acres which remains to the family, in the south-east corner of Pontiac Township. This is a very valuable property, and reflects the painstaking care expended upon it by its industrious and practical owner. Mr. Russell was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Pontiac, having first joined the order in California. In politics, he was a Republican, and with his wife, was a consistent member of the Methodist church.

The married life of Mr. Russell was a particularly harmonious one, and in his wife, formerly Mary Jane Denton, he found an unfailing helpmate and ready sympathizer. The marriage of this worthy couple occurred April 9, 1857, after Mr. Russell had returned from California, Mrs. Russell being a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., born January 8, 1836, a daughter of Benjamin and Anna (Anderson) Denton, natives of West Virginia. The maternal grandfather, Richard Anderson, a native of East Virginia, was a Quaker, although the early members of the Denton family were Presbyterians.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell had no children born to them, but they opened their hearts and home to two of the children of Mr. Russell's brother, William Russell—Scott C. and Albert L., twins, who died in 1882 and 1891, respectively. They also reared Caroline Rogers, who became the wife of W. B. Fyfe of Pontiac, but who died in 1893. Mr. Russell was ever a dependable neighbor and friend, an honest and wide-awake business man, and a progressive and enlightened landsman.

RYAN, John F., President of the Commercial National Bank, of Chatsworth, Ill., and one of the most prominent citizens of the southeastern part of Livingston County, was born in Marshall County, Ill., May 21, 1861. His father was William Ryan, a native of Tipperary, Ireland, who came to the United States with his wife in 1847 (at the time of the great famine in Ireland), landing in New Orleans. After being employed in that city awhile he came to Illinois, and worked two years for Bishop Chase, at Jubilee, near Peoria, as Superintendent of the farm connected with the Episcopal College. He had a collegiate education, being also a surveyor, and made himself very useful to Bishop Chase in arranging and beautifying the grounds about the latter's official residence. After the death of his wife he married again, settling in Marshall County and devoting his attention to farming. In addition to his farming operations he dealt extensively in lands. He died in 1875, at the age of sixty-three years, owning at the time of his decease about 1,600 acres of farming land. His second wife was Margaret Keough, whom he wedded while in the employ of Bishop Chase. She was a business woman and assumed the management of her husband's estate, surviving him until 1903, and at intervals adding to the extent of the property. Of the eight children resulting from her union with William Ryan, seven were sons, and they remained at home working together, so that when the estate was divided the shares were very readily determined, entailing little expense to the heirs. The mother lived to see each of her children settled in life. When she passed away her eldest son, Rev. Daniel J. Ryan, who afterwards died at Jacksonville, Ill., conducted her funeral rites, his six brothers acting as pall-bearers, and bearing the coffin to the grave. Of the other children who were educated by her, Thomas is a farmer of Stark County, Ill.; Timothy D., is a banker, of Ogden, Utah, who was formerly in the banking business at Wyoming, Ill.; J. F., who is a farmer by occupation, after remaining at home until he was twenty-eight years old, located in 1888, half a mile north of Chatsworth, where he has since lived; William J., who stayed at the old home, where he died in 1906, his widow still owning the Ryan homestead; Michael P., twin brother of the last named, who is a farmer at Wyoming, Ill.; and Mary E., who is the wife of James Day, of Peoria.

Rev. Daniel J. Ryan was one of the leading priests of the Alton diocese, in which he officiated twenty-four years, thirteen years of this period being spent in charge of St. Joseph's Church in Springfield. His whole life was devoted to the functions of the priesthood. The other sons were inclined towards business or agricultural pursuits and all have been successful.

John F. Ryan was profitably engaged in farming on a large scale for a number of years, and is still the owner of three-quarters of a section of land near Chatsworth. He has given the greater portion of his attention to raising, feed-

ing and shipping live stock. He is manager of a cotton plantation of 1,129 acres in Coahoma County, Miss., in which he has a half interest. Mr. Ryan was one of the organizers of the Commercial National Bank, of Chatsworth, of which he has been President since 1902, and is regarded as one of the most sagacious and conservative financiers in Livingston County. He is the owner and occupant of a handsome residence in Chatsworth, erected by him in 1907.

The marriage of Mr. Ryan took place at Camp Grove, Ill., on February 20, 1889, on which date he was wedded to Emma M. Fennell, their union having resulted in three children: Gladys C., Marie M. and John R. Mr. Ryan has kept out of active politics, and his political action is not restricted by party lines. He supports the men and measures he thinks to be the best interests of all the people. He was reared in the Catholic faith, and he and his excellent wife are devout and zealous members of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Church in Chatsworth, and he is also a member of the Knights of Columbus.

SAMPSON, Edward.—Perhaps no nation in the world has given America better citizens than Norway, for its people are frugal, industrious and capable. They know how to work and they are not afraid to do so, and in consequence it is a great rarity to find a poor Norseman. Edward Sampson of Section 20, Sunbury Township, Livingston County, is perhaps as good an example of what can be accomplished through honest effort, intelligently directed, as the county affords. He was born February 21, 1849, in Norway, and came to the United States in 1866. Although his education was meager, he knew how to earn his living and had worked out by the month in his native land, so when he settled at Mount, Lee County, Ill., he soon found something to do, and not only earned money, but saved it until, in 1882, he was able to buy 120 acres on Section 20, Sunbury Township, Livingston County. It was all wild land and much of it under water. With a vigor and will that belongs to his race, Mr. Sampson went to work and cleared off his land, drained it, bought rock amounting to eleven car loads, which was used for the foundation of his handsome farm house and substantial barn.

Mr. Sampson married Miss Sarah Highland, and they had children as follows: Annie at home; Gay was drowned when nine years and eleven days old; Sophia married John Peterson and they reside on another farm owned by Mr. Sampson in Sunbury; Arthur is a farmer; Sam, Garheart, Jacob, Ida, Ole, Charlie and Jesse, all at home. Mrs. Sampson died December 23, 1903, firm in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which she was a member, as are the remainder of the family.

Mr. Sampson has been very successful, owning 340 acres, 180 on his home place, and 160 in Section 34, the same township. When he landed he was eleven dollars in debt, but he soon paid that off and immediately began to save. Perhaps thrift, economy and saving are the three

words that explain his success. His wealth has not come by any sudden turn of fortune, but has resulted from a careful, frugal, systematic saving of the pennies, which have steadily rolled up into dollars. Mr. Sampson had the pleasure of a visit to his native land where he enjoyed a visit with relatives and friends. After locating in Livingston County he became an adopted citizen of the country he had chosen as his home, and has always given his vote and support to the Republican party.

SAMPSON, Ole A.—Self made, self reliant, a man who has never shirked a single duty, or wasted a cent, Ole A. Sampson is one of the very best examples of true Norseman Livingston County has ever known. Few Americans could go into a strange land, ignorant of the language, customs and work, and without any help, build up a comfortable fortune in less than half a century; and yet this is just what he has done, and at the same time built up a reputation for honesty and faithfulness that has never failed those who trusted in him. Mr. Sampson was born in Norway, February 22, 1845, and after receiving a limited book education, but a thorough one in the more practical line of work, he left his home in 1866, and coming to America went to work for John Rostal near Ottawa. Faithfully he kept on, always saving more than half his earnings, until he had accumulated \$1,800. This he invested in an 103-acre farm, which he bought from Captain Strawn. This farm was located near Blackstone, and on it Mr. Sampson began to farm his own land. After he had improved it, in eight years he sold this farm, at a profit, and bought 80 acres on Section 25, and established his present home.

In 1874 he married Miss Annie Nelson, who was born in Norway. They have the following family: Ellen married Charles Pearson, a farmer of Sunbury Township; Bertha married Charles Knudson, a farmer in Sunbury Township; Nelse, Laura and Annie at home, and two who died in infancy. The home farm consists of 320 acres of as fine land as can be found in Livingston County, and upon it Mr. Sampson has made many very fine improvements. His house and barns are substantial, and his premises are orderly, while his machinery and tools are of improved makes. He and his family are Lutherans. Ever since he became a citizen of the United States, Mr. Sampson has been very patriotic, and is as proud of the stars and stripes as though he had been born beneath it. A Republican in his political faith, he votes for the candidates of that party upon every occasion. Too much praise cannot be given men of this stamp, for they have accomplished much, and not only have helped themselves, but others, in developing their locality, and setting so excellent an example of thrifty, frugal living, which results so desirably to everyone. Livingston County today has no better or more worthy farmer citizen than Ole A. Sampson.

SANDMEYER, John H., one of the most industrious and worthy farmers of Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Versailles, Ill., August 10, 1859, a son of George and Jacobina (Moschel) Sandmeyer, natives of Bavaria, Germany. George Sandmeyer, who followed farming during his active life, located in New Jersey on arriving in the United States, moving from that state to Peoria, Ill., thence in the course of time to Versailles, and ultimately to Pike Township, where he bought eighty acres of land. On this he lived until his withdrawal from agricultural labors, when he moved to the village of Chenoa, and is now passing his days in retirement. He and his wife reared a family of four children, all of whom are living. In politics he is a follower of the Republican party, and in religion both are Lutherans. John H. Sandmeyer was brought up on his father's farm near Versailles, and in boyhood attended the district schools of Brown County. All of his mature life has been devoted to farming, except two years which he spent in Kansas. He is the owner of 160 acres of good land in Pike Township, well improved and conditioned, and is classed as a very thorough and substantial farmer and a useful and reliable citizen.

On December 17, 1884, John H. Sandmeyer was married, in Livingston County, to Mrs. Lily Phillips, a daughter of John T. and Elizabeth Monroe, early residents of the county. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Sandmeyer was William Monroe, a native of Scotland, and her grandfather on the maternal side was Alfred Cornelius, who came from Kentucky to Illinois in 1830. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sandmeyer have been born seven children, as follows: Edith Margaret, Eugene W., John Henry, Lillian Essibel, Avis, Elizabeth and Vincent M. Lillian is at home, and Edith is the wife of James Cecil Shoop.

In political matters, Mr. Sandmeyer gives his support to the Republican party, and he and his good wife are members of the Lutheran church.

SANTELMAN, Charles, residing on Section 31, Sunbury Township, Livingston County, was born in LaSalle County, Ill., October 12, 1857, a son of Henry and Sophia (Freeman) Santelman, both natives of Germany. Henry Santelman and his brother Gustave came to America when about twenty-five or twenty-six, and settled in LaSalle County, and there went to work at \$10 per month. While living in LaSalle County Henry Santelman married about 1855, after which he rented land for some years until he was able to buy 120 acres. This he improved and farmed until selling it at a profit, he bought 240 acres. This last property he developed into a well improved farm, and on it all his children, except Charles, were born. The children were as follows: Charles; Amelia, married William Russell, who was born in Newton Township; Henry, a farmer of Amity Township; Mary, married Christ Kates, of Grand Rampel Township, La-

Salle County; Fred, a farmer of Newtown Township; Albert, who died on the old farm in August, 1897. Henry Santelman died on his farm in 1898, aged seventy-three years. He and his wife were members of the German Evangelical Church and always took an active part in it. In politics he was a Republican, and he showed forth in his life and work what can be accomplished by one who is not afraid of hard work, and who knew how to save. He had nothing when he came to America, but he died a wealthy man, in full enjoyment of the comforts and luxuries which his own efforts had provided.

Charles Santelman was reared and educated in his native county, and remained at home until his marriage, April 20, 1883, to Miss Mary Beckman, who was born in Germany, a daughter of John Beckman and Mary (Schroder) Beckman. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Beckman came to America, and now makes her home with Mrs. Santelman. Her children were: John of Hills, Minn.; Sophia who married Henry J. Santelman, a farmer of Amity Township, and Mrs. Santelman.

Upon their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Santelman settled on a 160-acre farm, which was then in a very poor condition, and which he bought for \$35 per acre. A portion of the land was under water, and this he drained, placing five car-loads of tile. He enriched the land, carefully arranged his crops, and has so improved it that he now values it at \$217.50 per acre. He is a lover of good horses and those he raises are worth \$2,500 a span. His preference is for Percheron stock for farm and market uses and has three magnificent brood mares. He has crossed the Cheshire with the Poland-China hogs for market, and is pleased with the results. For market, he prefers the Durham cow, but for milking purpose he thinks the Jersey is better. His experiments in crossing and raising stock have proved successful, and he is very much interested in and authority on the subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Santelman have one daughter, Lydia, who was born September 10, 1885. She married Ira Cox of Sibley, Ill., where he is engaged in hardware business, and they have one son, Elmer. Mr. Santelman is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the German Evangelical Church. He has been a good farmer, an excellent manager, and has every cause to congratulate himself upon the manner in which he has brought up his farm from the condition in which he found it and materially increased its value. He has honorably discharged every duty of life imposed upon him, and he has certainly won the respect and confidence, to a marked degree, of the community in which he has resided for so many years, and with which he has so completely identified himself.

SCHICKEDANZ, John F., whose successful farming experience in Livingston County, Ill., covers a period of nearly forty years, was born in Clark County, Ill., April 29, 1851, a son of George and Bena (Rhenmoser) Schickedanz, both natives of Germany, the former born in

Hesse-Darmstadt in October, 1819, and the latter in Wurtemberg, in June, 1823. They came to the United States in 1839, locating in Clark County, Ill., and their son George was engaged in farming there. Some years later he removed to Livingston County, settling in Pike Township, and subsequently changing his location to Epwards Point Township, where at the time of his death he owned 200 acres of land. His religious connection was with the Evangelical Association, as is that of his widow, who has reached the age of eighty-four years. Their family consisted of nine children, of whom six are living. In political action George Schickedanz followed the lead of the Republican party. He died in April, 1879. John F. Schickedanz received his education in the common schools, passing his youth on the home farm. He began farming in Livingston County in 1871, on eighty acres of land which he had bought in Pike Township. Selling this after a few years, he removed to Rooks Creek Township, where he now owns 200 acres, besides having eighty acres in Pontiac Township. In March, 1907, he withdrew from active business life, taking possession of his fine residence at No. 511 Vermilion street, Pontiac. He has had a toilsome and prosperous career, and is now living in the enjoyment of the well earned fruits of his labors.

On October 25, 1874, Mr. Schickedanz was joined in matrimony with Lucy Weber, born in Utica, N. Y., July 22, 1854, and a daughter of George and Sophia (Horner) Weber. George Weber was born in Walhausen, Wurtemberg, Germany, February 12, 1823, and his wife at the same place, September 15, 1826. They came to America in 1847, and until 1856 resided at Utica, N. Y., in the latter year removing to Woodford County, Ill. In 1869 the family located in Pike Township and some time later went to Pontiac Township, where Mrs. Weber died April 17, 1902, her husband surviving until December 10, 1905.

In religion he and his wife adhere to the faith of the Evangelical Association.

SCHMIDT, Herman, owner of 309 acres of choice land in Esmen Township, Livingston County, well improved and in excellent condition, and all the result of his own energy, perseverance, honesty and good management, was born in Germany, April 19, 1859. He is a son of William and Christiana (Hagelmann) Schmidt, natives of Germany. William Schmidt was a brick molder by trade, and he and his wife spent their entire lives in the land of their birth. the subject of this personal record receiving no advices from them after his arrival in this country. Both father and mother were members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom emigrated to these shores. Herman Schmidt attended the public schools of the fatherland in his youth, and after finishing his studies, learned the trade followed by his father. In 1883 he came to the United States, and proceeding to Illinois, located near the village of Stanton,

where he worked several years. In 1898 he bought a farm of 160 acres in Esmen Township, which he has since increased in extent by purchasing 149 acres lying on the opposite side of the road, in Odell Township. All the improvements on this land were made by him. Besides general farming, he devotes considerable attention to stock-raising. He is regarded as one of the most thorough and successful farmers in his locality.

In June, 1887, Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage with Sophia Baker, who was born in Illinois, and is a daughter of Henry and Lena (Gebeke) Baker, early settlers in the Prairie State. The father of Mrs. Schmidt is deceased. Seven children have resulted from this union, namely: Emil, William, Otto, Edwin, Walter, Lena and Clara.

Politically, Mr. Schmidt is a supporter of the Republican party. In religion, he and his wife are adherents of the Lutheran faith. As a farmer and in his individual capacity as a citizen, Mr. Schmidt stands high in the general estimation, and he and Mrs. Schmidt are looked upon as among the best people of the township.

SCHNETZLER, Henry, contractor and builder, blacksmith, repairer and house-raiser and mover, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., is one of the many self-made men of this county, of whom none more richly deserves the descriptive title here applied, and to whose interesting career this all too brief account is devoted. Mr. Schnetzler was born in Monroe County, Ohio, August 23, 1856, a son of Henry and Barbara (Bruedling) Schnetzler, natives of Switzerland, who came to America in 1854. His father, who had learned the trade of shoemaker in his native land, worked at it in Ohio until 1866, when, coming to Illinois, he bought a farm near Metamora, Woodford County, which he improved and on which he lived until 1871, when he died. His family remained in Woodford County until 1881, when they removed to Fairbury where Mrs. Schnetzler died September 22 of that year. This woman, whose character was in every way admirable, bore her husband two children, Henry and Joseph Schnetzler, the last mentioned of whom is a carpenter and wagon-maker.

Henry Schnetzler gained his education in schools in Monroe County, Ohio. He was about ten years old when his father, with his family, located in Woodford County. There the boy worked on the farm until after the death of his father. From that time until 1882 he was variously employed. In the year last mentioned, he engaged in the junk business, and in the following year, opened a general store in Fairbury, which he conducted with considerable success till 1888, when he disposed of it and bought a cutlery factory in which he manufactured pocket knives. Finding it impossible to compete in the markets with the cheap knives of foreign manufacture, he closed out that enterprise in 1889 and found employment as a carpenter with a contractor then operating at and around Fairbury.

In 1889 he began contracting and building on his own responsibility, drawing his own plans and giving to his work the utmost care, with a view to making it both artistic and durable. His painstaking proved to be a valuable asset in his business. It won for him the confidence of the public, and in a few years he was perhaps the leading and most extensive contractor and builder in his part of the county.

In 1882 Mr. Schnetzler married Miss Eliza Verkler. She was a native of Switzerland and came to the United States with her parents, who settled at Fairbury immediately after their landing. Her father died two years later, and her good mother in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Schnetzler became the parents of five children, two of whom died in infancy. Those who are still living are Charles, Edith and Emma. Charles, who is his father's partner, is an architect of the best training and of ample attainments. He has spent two years as a student in the architectural department of the University of Illinois. Emma was graduated from the Fairbury High School with the class of 1905, and has won success as a teacher in district schools near Fairbury. Edith has, as far as possible, taken the place in the household, once filled by her mother, who died June 18, 1898, deeply regretted not only in her own family circle, but by all who had known her.

In his son, who has won honors as an architect, Mr. Schnetzler has an able assistant. He still does his work as carefully and as conscientiously as when he began, in 1889, to do business on his own account. He has added to his enterprise a department of lumber and builders' materials, and handles lumber in carload lots and at his yards so extensively that his trade amounts to about \$20,000 annually. It will be seen that his operations in lumber afford him opportunities, in figuring on contracts, to include lumber and mill work at such prices as to do away with the competition of ordinary builders. It is probable that he has erected more large residences in and around Fairbury than any competitor and his trade covers a territory extending sixty miles in all direction. His integrity as a man and as a builder is beyond question, and those who patronize him are certain of getting in every respect just what they pay for. During the busy season of the year he employs nearly thirty men. At his shops he is prepared to build or repair machines of any kind whether the materials are wood or iron. He has in his employ J. E. Marceau, one of the best machinists in Central Illinois. While not a member of any church, Mr. Schnetzler holds to the Christian faith. He is liberal in his aid of all religious and educational movements, and any measure which in his opinion, promises to benefit any considerable number of his fellow citizens has his hearty support. He is identified with the Yeomen of America, a fraternal order.

SCHONBOHM, Ewald, a hard-working, thrifty and thoroughly reliable farmer of Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill., where he enjoys

the respect and good will of all his neighbors, was born in Oldenburg, Germany, January 9, 1859. He is a son of Marion and Renche (Bonnen) Schonbohm, the father dying in his native land in 1868, while the mother came to the United States, making her home in Ford County, Ill., but dying in Chicago, in 1902. They were the parents of two children who grew to manhood, viz: George, who lives in Chicago, and Ewald, the subject of this personal record. Ewald Schonbohm was brought up as a farmer, and after attending the public schools of Jever, Oldenburg, learned the miller's trade in that locality. In 1882, he came to Ford County, Ill. His brother George, with his mother came to this country in 1880 and locating in Ford County, Ill., went to work on a farm. After remaining there about eight years, during the last five of which he was engaged in farming, he moved to Livingston County, and since 1890, has rented the Noah H. Pike farm of 315 acres in Owego Township. Besides general farming he has raised considerable stock and has met with success in all his undertakings. He is the owner of 280 acres of good land in Minnesota.

On March 5, 1885, Mr. Schonbohm was joined in matrimony with Christina Peters, born in Holstein, Germany, a daughter of John and Katherine (Doren) Peters, Germans by nativity, who on emigrating to the United States settled in Chicago, where they still live. To Mr. and Mrs. Schonbohm have been born eight children, as follows: one who died in infancy; Katherine, deceased; Lizzie, Edna, George, Ernest, Martha and Edward.

In politics, Mr. Schonbohm is a Democrat and has served as School Director twelve years. Fraternally, he is a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

SCHROCK, Christian, for forty years a much respected farmer in Livingston County, Ill., and formerly the owner of considerable land in the vicinity of the village of Flanagan, where he is now living in comfortable retirement after disposing of all his farming interests, is a native of Bavaria, Germany, his birth having taken place there on April 24, 1826. Mr. Schrock is a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Perky) Schrock, of German nativity, the father, whose occupation was that of a farmer, having been born in 1799 also in Bavaria. Both parents spent all of their lives in the fatherland. Christian Schrock was reared on the home farm, and when a boy, attended the public schools of the neighborhood. In 1846 he emigrated to the United States, landing in New Orleans, and was employed at garden and dairy work in that city. Four years later he journeyed to Tazewell County, Ill., where he was engaged in farming for eighteen years. In 1868, he moved to Livingston County and continued farming until his withdrawal from active business.

March 14, 1852 Mr. Schrock was married to

Mary Zimmerman, the marriage occurring in Tazewell County, Ill., and the bride, who was born near Paris, France, November 5, 1836, being a daughter of Michael and Mactilinia (Urb) Zimmerman, both parents being now deceased. Eleven children were the offspring of this union, as follows: Mactilinia; Manual, married Sadie Campbell, and they have three sons and one daughter, and he is employed in the cereal mill in Flanagan; Mary, married Christian Burky, and they have two sons and reside next door to Mr. Schrock; Christian (deceased), married (first) Alice Tribey, and she died leaving three children, later married Nellie Bennett and they had four boys and one girl and she now resides with her parents; Elizabeth married Joseph Donmire and they reside six miles southwest of El Paso, Ill.; Phoebe and Anna, both deceased; Sarah married James Herbert (now deceased), and she resides in Flanagan, Ill., and has three children; Barbara married James King (deceased), she resides in Waldo Township and has three daughters; Dr. Joseph, married Dr. Mary Garred, an osteopath, and their home is in Bedford, Ind.; Katherine, married Samuel Locust, a resident of Flanagan, Ill., and they have two daughters and one son; and Lucy, married Henry Glingerich, they reside in Flanagan, Ill., and have a son and daughter.

In politics, Mr. Schrock has taken an independent course of late years. His religious connection is with the Mennonite church. To Mr. Schrock and wife have been born seventeen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

SCOULLER, John Deans, M. D.—The sterling and dependable qualities which ever have distinguished the typical Scotchman, whether at home or abroad, find expression in Dr. John Deans Scouller, a medical practitioner of many years experience, who, among other responsibilities growing out of his ability and high character was Superintendent of the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac from 1872 until 1891, and who for many years has been Pension Examiner for Pontiac and vicinity. Dr. Scouller spent the formative period of his life in mountainous Ayrshire, Scotland, where he was born January 15, 1836, and where his father, James Scouller, owned and operated a quarry and engaged in macadamizing roads. The elder Scouller in early manhood married a Miss Deans, and during his entire life remained content with the advantages offered in his native country.

After leaving the school room, John Deans Scouller applied himself to learning the shoemaker's trade, thereafter following the same as a journeyman until 1863. During that year he invested his meager savings in a ticket to America, and, in Buffalo, N. Y., worked at his trade for a year. He then came to Sparta, Ill., and soon after was employed as overseer of the shoe department of the House of Refuge in St. Louis, remaining there two years, and later serving as Assistant Superintendent of the institution. From St. Louis he returned to

Buffalo and entered the medical department of the University, graduating therefrom in 1870 and beginning his initial practice in Washington County, Ill., where he remained until May, 1872. He then became Superintendent of the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac, and the best guarantee of his ability and worthiness lies in the fact that he retained the position uninterruptedly for nineteen years and six months, and until embarking upon an independent general practice of medicine in Pontiac in 1892.

The marriage of Dr. Scouller and Louise Dethering occurred in St. Louis, Mo., January 1, 1871, Mrs. Scouller being a daughter of one of the pioneer preachers of Alton, this state. Of the children born to Dr. and Mrs. Scouller, Barbara is the wife of James M. Lyon, the present Mayor of Pontiac; John D. is in business with his father; Louise is the wife of Max Westermann of Lincoln, Neb.; James is an educator in the Isle of Panay, Philippines; and Helen Mar is living at home. Dr. Scouller is held in high esteem by all who are privileged to know him, and his contribution to the best tenets of medical and surgical science is a large and valuable one. As a man he is genial and approachable, and among his friends and well-wishers are many of the foremost people in the town and county.

SHAW, William B., is a practical plumber and tinner, and installer of steam-heating plants of Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., whose success, which has been won in a comparatively short time, is indicative of the character and traits of the man. In every accepted sense of the word he is self-made. If his beginning was small and humble, it was at the same time safe and sure, and full of a promise that is being fulfilled. In this day great skill and ability are required in the lines of work to which he devotes himself, and it is only doing him simple justice to state that he is fully meeting all demands upon him both as a mechanic and as a man of affairs.

William B. Shaw was born at Kilsyth, Scotland, October 1, 1885, a son of William B. and Jennie (Miller) Shaw, both natives of the town of his birth. His father was by trade a weaver. He had come to America some years before the birth of the subject of this sketch, and had prospered at his chosen work. From time to time he went back to Scotland to visit his wife and children, and in 1887 brought them to this country, locating at Streator, Ill., where he and his wife are still living. Practically all his life has been devoted to weaving carpets, rugs, and similar varieties of goods.

William B. and Jennie (Miller) Shaw have had five children. Their daughter Nellie married George Murdock and remained at Kilsyth, Scotland. Their daughter Maggie is the wife of W. C. Newton, a foreman on the line of the Illinois Central Railroad. Two other daughters, Lizzie and Jennie, live with their parents. William B. Shaw, the only son, is the immediate subject of this sketch. The parents of these chil-

dren are in every respect most worthy. Mr. Shaw has for many years been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics, is a Republican.

William B. Shaw, of Fairbury, was about two years old in 1887, when his father brought his family, except one daughter, from Kilsyth, Scotland, to Streator, Ill. He was reared and educated in the public schools at Streator, meanwhile assisting his father in business as a weaver, and after leaving school practically equipped educationally to begin the battle of life, worked with his father one year. At fifteen years of age he then began an apprenticeship with Robert T. Shaw, a practical plumber at Streator, which continued until 1906. Even after he was able to earn wages his pay was only two dollars and fifty cents a week, besides his board, but the amount of his earnings was of no consideration to him at that time, his sole desire being to learn. In due time he won honors as a skillful mechanic and was sent by his employer to oversee the latter's largest and most particular jobs. In the shop, where he worked with seven or eight other men, he was known as "the first man," a fact which shows the esteem in which he was held by the fine mechanic who was initiating him into the mysteries of his craft. When he decided to resign his position at Streator, he was given a letter of recommendation by his employer, of which the following is a copy:

STREATOR, Ill., Oct. 19, 1906.

To whom it may concern: I take great pleasure in certifying to the worthy character of the bearer, William B. Shaw, of this city. Mr. Shaw is a young man of good family and steady habits, and honest and conscientious in the performance of every duty. He has been in my employment for six years and I regret his loss. He leaves my employ voluntarily with my best wishes.

(Signed) R. T. Shaw.

Having a desire to gain a different experience in his trade, he went to Chicago in 1907 to work for a plumber named McNeil, on Twelfth Street. After about four months, a plumbers' strike caused a cessation of work and Mr. Shaw returned home and was again employed for a short time by his instructor. He then went to Gridley, and was there employed by the firm of Neargast & Donnelly. This concern had a large contract on hand and, knowing Mr. Shaw's ability, sent for him to assist in its completion. Having finished that work, he came to Fairbury, where for about a year he was employed by Walter A. Kessler. This position he resigned to establish himself in the plumbing business in association with J. G. Swing, putting in modern machinery, first class fixtures and a complete stock of plumbing materials. The concern guarantees all its plumbing, heating, tin work and roofing.

February 10, 1906, Mr. Shaw married Miss Rose Pedersen, a native of Streator and daughter of George Pedersen. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw

are active members of the Presbyterian church of Streator, and fraternally is associated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Shaw is identified with the Order of the Royal Neighbors.

SHIELDS, Robert L., for forty years an enterprising and prosperous farmer of Livingston County, Ill., now living in leisure and retirement in Pontiac, a man of abundant means and strong character, and a gallant soldier in the Civil War, was born in Kentucky, September 27, 1840. His father, William Shields, was a Scotchman by birth, and his mother, Isabel (Johnson) Shields, was a native of Ireland. In Scotland, William Shields was a mason, having learned that trade when a boy, but in Illinois he followed farming. His marriage with Isabel Johnson took place in Ireland, and about the year 1838 he came to the United States, sojourning for a while in Pittsburg, Baltimore, at different places near Cincinnati and in Kentucky. Finally, in 1849, he located in McLean County, Ill., settling in Old Town Township, where he and his wife spent their last years, the father dying in 1903, and the mother in 1905. Both were members of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of nine children, three of whom are living. Politically, William Shields was a strong Republican. He took a prominent part in the local contests of his party, and held a number of township offices in succession.

In boyhood, Robert Shields utilized the advantages of the district schools to the extent of receiving a good common-school education and grew to maturity on the paternal farm. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K., Third Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, Capt. Nichols commanding, in which he served three years, participating in all the notable engagements in which his regiment took part, including the Siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Pea Ridge, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Stone River, Chickamauga, and Chattanooga.

After being mustered out and honorably discharged in 1864, he returned home but in December of the same year enlisted in Company One Hundred and Fiftieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry under command of Capt. Lawrence of Bloomington, in which he served one year, being finally mustered out at Atlanta, Ga., January 16, 1866. In 1867 he located in Livingston County, Ill., buying a farm of 160 acres in Saunemin Township. To his first purchase he added at intervals, until he is now the owner of 400 acres of land. For many years he was a successful breeder of Percheron horses, and later, of English Shires and Short-horn cattle, also raising a good grade of hogs. In 1892 he moved to Kankakee, Ill., in order to secure advantages for the education of his children, and, after remaining there three years, returned to his farm. In 1904, he relinquished active business pursuits, establishing his residence in Pontiac, where he bought a home at No. 622 North Main Street. He has an interest in a farm of 320 acres in McLean County, Ill.,

which was the old homestead of his father and is still undivided. He also owns twenty acres in Dawson Township.

On November 14, 1873, Mr. Shields was married to Eliza Bennett Lilly, who was born April 25, 1845, in Madison County, Ohio, a daughter of John and Mary (Smith) Lilly, natives of that State. They came to Illinois in 1856, locating in Rook's Creek Township, Livingston County, where the father followed farming. Both are deceased. Their family consisted of twelve children, seven of whom are living. John Lilly was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was quite prominent in church work. Politically, he was identified with the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Shields became the parents of five children, as follows: Truman William, Clarence S., Lilly Belle, Chester Weldon and James H. The eldest son, Truman W., is a graduate of the law school of the University of Michigan, and is now engaged in the practice of law in Kankakee, Ill.; he married Agnes Valeria Froehlke. Clarence S., who received his education in the Kankakee High School, and is now a barber of Lincoln, Ill., married Viola Boggs. Lilly B. was educated in the Kankakee and Pontiac High schools, and Chester W., who pursued a course of study in the Bloomington Business College, is at present in the employ of the International Harvester Company. James H. is engaged in the grocery business in Pontiac. The amiable and faithful mother of this interesting family departed this life, deeply lamented, June 4, 1903. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as is her husband. Politically, Mr. Shields is a Republican, and fraternally, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

SHOOK, James K., contractor and builder, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Maryland has contributed to Central Illinois many men who, through ability and endeavor, have taken their places among its leading citizens. A score of family names could be mentioned in this connection, but the name at the head of this article will sufficiently illustrate the thought. James K. Shook was born at Utica Mills, Frederick County, Md., September 6, 1860, a son of John William and Mary E. (Morningstar) Shook. John William Shook was a son of Jacob Shook, who was of German ancestry, the former and his wife both being natives of Maryland, where he died in 1901, aged fifty-eight years, and his wife in 1864, when their son, James K., was about four years old. Mr. Shook was a farmer and in politics a Democrat. In all things pertaining to the prosperity of the general public he was notably public spirited. He and his wife were ardent members of the Reformed church, and he was the Superintendent of the Sunday school. They had three children, two sons and a daughter, of whom the latter died in infancy. Their son John died at Liberty, Md., in February, 1908, aged fifty-two years, four months and eight days, after a very short illness. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Shook married Elizabeth

Morningstar, also of Maryland nativity, who bore him four children, one of whom is deceased. Those now living are: George W., a contractor and builder, of Harrisburg, Pa.; Charles, a prosperous farmer, of Frederick, Md.; and Mrs. Albert Long, of Daysville, Md., also interested in farming.

James K. Shook spent his boyhood days in school and on the farm. He remained with his father until 1883, when he was about twenty years old, and then turned his face westward, stopping for a short time at Springfield, Ill., and at St. Louis, Mo. In December of that year he went to Pontiac, Livingston County, and found employment in the local office of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. In January 1884, he established at Fairbury an office for that company of which he was in charge until the fall of 1885, proving himself one of the most successful sewing machine salesmen in all the country round about. In 1885 he arranged to learn the carpenter's trade with Bronson & Lawrence, with a view to becoming a contractor and builder. The Churchill elevator was the first building on which he worked. In 1892 he began contracting on his own account. He erected the Odd Fellows' Temple in 1895, the Baptist church and the Central Opera House, all at Fairbury, and these buildings and many others are monuments to his skill and integrity.

April 2, 1885, Mr. Shook married Miss Sarah E. Deitz, who was born and reared at Fairbury, a daughter of Christopher Deitz, and she bore him two daughters: Gertrude E., a graduate of the Fairbury schools, has gained success as a teacher in Livingston County, while Mabel Genevieve is a member of the Junior class of the Fairbury schools. Mrs. Shook died April 10, 1895, and April 30, 1899, Mr. Shook married Miss Ida Stuckey, who was born near Fairbury. The second Mrs. Shook is a member of the Rebecca Lodge at Fairbury, and has acted as representative of that lodge and of the local lodge of Yeoman, with which he is also identified. Mrs. Sarah E. (Deitz) Shook was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is remembered as having always been friendly and sympathetic, eager to help any one in time of trouble and sickness. Mr. Shook is an Odd Fellow, a member of both Lodge and Encampment, a Yeoman of America and a member of the Order of the Modern Woodmen. He has high rank as a Mason and a wide acquaintance in the Masonic fraternity. In politics he is independent. His public spirit is well known to his fellow citizens. For a quarter of a century he has been identified with the development and growth of Fairbury, and many of the leading citizens of Livingston County, occupy residences that he has built. He is a stockholder in the company owning the Fairbury Opera House.

Early in 1908, Mr. Shook returned to Maryland to visit the scenes of his boyhood, and while there, his step-mother was buried. After visiting Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D. C., he returned to Frederick, expecting to meet his

brother John and the latter's wife before returning to Fairbury. He was met there by a message which informed him that his brother was dying, and he did not reach his brother's bedside until an hour after his death. John Shook, who was his only brother, was a wealthy retired farmer and one of the most prominent citizens of Liberty, Md.

SHULTZ, Turley C., a farmer of Livingston County, Ill., is of German lineage. Too much cannot be said as to the value of German blood as an element in our population. A people more industrious, economical, thrifty, progressive and enlightened than the German-Americans is to be found nowhere in the world. Their history also demonstrates their patriotism. In every national crisis they have been found loyal and willing to do their part, even to the extent of risking their lives for the general good. However great their success as business men, their success as farmers has equaled it.

Turley C. Shultz was born in Peoria County, Ill., in 1870, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Shultz, of Germany. His father, who had learned farming in the Fatherland, settled in America first in Peoria County, then in Livingston County, where he owns 285 acres of valuable land. There he lived until a few years ago when, retiring from active life, he took up his residence in Chenoa, McLean County, Ill. His son, Turley C., was reared on a farm and educated in public schools. He has always been a general farmer and stock-raiser and owns a farm of 160 acres in Henry County, Ohio. In 1895 he married Miss Alice La Duc, a daughter of Louis and Eva B. La Duc, natives of France, and they have a daughter named Viola. Mr. Shultz is a Republican and he has demonstrated the possession of a public spirit that makes him a valuable citizen and a useful man in the community.

SLAGEL, Joseph, proprietor of the Fairbury Motor Car Works, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. We have just passed over the threshold of the "horseless age." Of course the horse will have his place in the world's economy, but the average horse is destined in the future to have an easier life than the average horse has had in any highly civilized country for several centuries. The motor vehicle even now renders his service unnecessary for many of the tasks that he has long been accustomed to perform. The invention of light or buggy automobiles would now be recognized as a long step in that direction, were it not for the fact that it has been practically impossible to fit them with sufficient motor power and still keep them in the class of light vehicles.

Joseph Slagel, son of Samuel and Mary (Demler) Slagel, was born in Fairbury, Ill., February 12, 1883. His father, who was of German ancestry, was born in Iowa. His mother was of German birth and first saw the light of day at Baden, Germany. Samuel Slagel was a farmer and blacksmith. Besides being a good business man, he is exceptionally gifted as a mechanic

and the products of his little "smithy" never failed to satisfy his most exacting customers. In 1871 he disposed of his interests in Iowa, and, removing to Livingston County, bought a farm in Indian Grove Township on which he and his good wife are living at the present time.

Their son Joseph passed his boyhood on his father's farm, and before he was done with the district school began to develop a mechanical and inventive talent which was doubtless to some extent inherited. When he was about eighteen years old he was supplied with tools and permitted to build a shop close by his home, in which he did the mechanical work for his father's farm and for the farms round about. In 1903, when he was twenty years old he invented an oil pump for steam engines, which has found much favor. In September, 1903, he removed to Fairbury and bought his present machine shop at the corner of Main and Sixth Streets. Here he has built up a manufacturing plant which, for its purpose, is not surpassed by any in Central Illinois. It is equipped with lathes, drilling machines, planers, milling machines, and all necessary appliances, and is truly a novelty shop in which it is possible to make repairs of any kinds of machines of any description. Mr. Slagel employs none but workmen of the highest class, and work that can not be done in his establishment certainly cannot be done anywhere else.

Mr. Slagel married Miss Emma Wagler, May 23, 1906. She is a native of Pulaski, Davis County, Iowa, a daughter of Joseph Wagler, who died in 1902. Her mother is living at Pulaski. Mr. Slagel adheres to the policies and principles of the Republican party. As a citizen he is eminently public-spirited and helpful, and among the many to whom he is favorably known there is not one who does not admire his ability and enterprise and wish him abundant success.

SLAUGHTER, Bert C., manager of the Illinois Card & Novelty Company, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., is a young man of varied and valuable business experience who is making a notable success in a field which he marked out for himself. In these days the man who has a knowledge of advertising and the ability to sell goods through the mails, is able, even from a small town, to so extend his operations as to make them include a very large territory, and specialties handled by such a man are pretty sure to find a wide sale. At the same time, such a business is one that should not be incautiously entered by any but the very elect. The knowledge upon which it must be based should be exact and comprehensive, and to win success in it the manager must have his finger constantly on the public pulse and know perfectly well that what each pulse-beat portends.

Bert C. Slaughter was born near Rossville, Vermilion County, Ill., October 5, 1876, a son of S. E. Slaughter, now of Fairbury, a biographical sketch of whom appears in these pages. In 1882 he began to attend the district school near the place of his birth and, after he came to Fairbury, entered the local public school from which

he was graduated with the class of 1897. Having acquired a knowledge of photography, in which he became expert, he took a financial interest in a photographic business. Disposing of this, he was at Forrest a year and then, in 1898, bought a gallery at Odell, Ill., which he was able to sell at a considerable advantage in 1900. Later, he accepted a position with Sweet, Wallach & Co., manufacturers and dealers in photo stock and supplies, Chicago, with which concern he made such a success as an inside salesman that he was sent out as a commercial traveler, in which capacity he labored successfully six years, covering Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio. Late in 1906 he resigned that position and, with Ro Bartlett, he organized in 1907 the Illinois, Card & Novelty Co., of Fairbury. They began business with machinery propelled entirely by foot power, and now all their presses are operated by electricity and their job printing office is supplied with all kinds of up-to-date machinery necessary in their business, which includes fancy job printing and the manufacture of cards, calendars and photo supplies. To this business Mr. Slaughter is peculiarly well adapted, both by experience and by artistic temperament, and under this management it is growing rapidly.

Mr. Slaughter married Miss Gertrude E. Rockwood, March 28, 1906. Miss Rockwood is a native of Illinois, and Ralph W. Rockwood, her father, is manager of the Walton Brothers' Grocery department. She bore her husband a son—Ralph Edward—December 12, 1907. She is a member of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Slaughter is a member of the Baptist church. A thoroughgoing Republican, he is active in party work and always solicitous for the growth and prosperity of Fairbury.

SLAUGHTER, Stephen E., a retired farmer, living in Fairbury, Ill., where he has been favorably known for many years, and a man who faithfully served the cause of the Union as a soldier in the Civil War, was born at Tremont, Tazewell County, Ill., June 29, 1846. His parents were Richard and Phoebe (Britnell) Slaughter, natives of England who came to the United States in 1844, locating in Chicago, where they remained until 1846 when they moved to Tazewell County. There Richard Slaughter went to work at his trade of a cabinet-maker, which he had learned in England, having been bound out as an apprentice for seven years. He died in the village of Tremont in 1849. Of the children born to him and his wife but one besides the subject of this sketch is now living, namely: Sarah, wife of William Wampler, of Ellsworth, McLean County, Ill.; Phoebe (Britnell) Slaughter, now deceased, was married in 1853, to Hiram Warner, a leading citizen of Tazewell County, by whom she had one son, Fred W. Warner, a resident of Philip, S. Dak.

Stephen E. Slaughter received his education in the common schools, remaining on the home farm until 1864, and, in September of that year, enlisting in Company A, One Hundred and Eighth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was

under fire for thirteen days at Spanish Fort, La., where his regiment captured a number of prisoners and Mr. Slaughter was detailed among others to take charge of them, although then but eighteen years of age and of small stature. At Vicksburg in August, 1865, his regiment was mustered out and received an honorable discharge at Chicago, Ill.

Returning to Tazewell County he applied himself to farm work for a time, and then, after attending school a year, obtained work as clerk in a store in Tremont. In 1867 he resumed farm work, continuing thus until the time of his marriage, November 19, 1870. On that date he was wedded to Elva M. Amsbury, who was born in the vicinity of Tremont, April 5, 1853, a daughter of Andrew J. Amsbury. She was an old schoolmate of her husband. Shortly after his marriage Mr. Slaughter bought a farm in Vermillion County, Ill., and there followed farming until 1883. On that farm their three children were born, namely: Ethel K., born December 1, 1871, who married Arthur Farr, a farmer, of Golden City, Mo.; Herbert C., born October 5, 1876, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume; and Emma E., born January 11, 1883; who is the wife of Albert L. Perry, of Kansas City, Mo., bookkeeper in the Western Electric Company.

In 1884 Mr. Slaughter sold his farm, taking up his residence in Fairbury, Ill., where he was engaged in the butchering business for eight years, in partnership with Mrs. L. J. Pfau. In 1892 he sold his interest in this concern and went into the grocery business in connection with a Mr. Albert Sutton who later sold out to Albert Swapp. In the latter part of 1893 Mr. Slaughter sold out, when he engaged in the real estate business, buying and selling farms. He now owns thirty-three acres of land in Livingston County and 120 in Shelby County, all desirable property. For twenty-five years, Mr. Slaughter has been a resident of Fairbury, taking an earnest interest in the growth and welfare of the city. He owns a comfortable home, and, after a busy life, has withdrawn from active pursuits and is living in contented retirement. He gave his children a good education and has been mindful of all his duties as a husband, father and citizen. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Aaron Weider Post No. 75, and in politics, has always supported the Republican party.

SLONE, William L.—Among the thrifty young farmers of Avoca Township is William L. Slone, residing on Section 22, where he has a good home and excellent farm, well cultivated and yielding good crops through his energy and foresight. He was born on this farm October 11, 1877, a son of Silas and Martha J. (Burns) Slone, natives of Clermont and Adams Counties, Ohio, respectively, and both were of Scotch-Irish ancestry grafted on colonial stock. The grandfather, George Slone, was a soldier in the Civil War, and, sad to say, was on his way home after the expiration of three years of service

when he was taken sick and died. His remains were sent home and interred in Clermont County. Three of his sons lost their lives on the battlefield defending their country's honor. Silas Slone and his brother Samuel were the only ones of this large family to come to Livingston County. Samuel died in Livingston County, and none of his descendants now live in the county.

The Burns family came from Adams County, Ohio, to Livingston County, Ill., in 1872, taking a month to make the trip by land in wagons. The year following Mr. Slone came to the county and met his future wife. Their courtship was brief, for February 19, of the same year, they were married. He then went to work for J. W. McDowell by the month, and for a quarter of a century was a faithful employe of the same man. Finally he rented land from Mr. McDowell, and was still a renter at the time of his death, June 21, 1900.

Mr. Slone was one of the most faithful of men in every way. As a member of the Republican party he gave his vote and influence to elect its candidates and defend its principles. As a member of the Methodist Church he never was known to fail in any duty. His deep knowledge of the Scriptures and true piety made him a much desired class-leader, and from the organization of the church he took upon himself the duties of sexton, cheerfully performing his self-appointed tasks in all kinds of weather, feeling that he was as truly working for his Lord in preparing His place of worship as the minister himself. His touching humility gained him the deep affection of his fellow members and he was sincerely mourned. For all of his services he never could be prevailed upon to accept a cent of remuneration. His widow survives and resides at Fairbury. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Silas Slone, of whom four died in infancy. The others are: William L.; Grace L., who married Le Roy De Moss, a farmer of Blairsburg, Iowa; George A., who married Miss Flossie Bay, and is a resident of Bloomington, Ill.; and Grant, who is a farmer of Avoca Township and married a Mrs. Armstrong.

William L. Slone was brought up on the farm, and worked on it while attending the district school. When his father died, William L. rented the home farm and is now operating 300 acres and, in 1908, had seventy-five acres in wheat, eighty-five in corn and eighty-five in oats. He makes a specialty of Foltz seed-wheat, in the growing of which he is a leader. In 1907 he sold 600 bushels of this wheat for seeding purposes. Mr. Slone endeavors to raise only high-grade cattle, horses and hogs, specializing on the last named, and he has been very successful in his farming operations.

On December 19, 1900, he married Miss Carrie K. Ulfers, born near Washington, Ill., and she is a daughter of John Ulfers. Mr. and Mrs. Slone have three children, as follows: Harold Cecil, born October 10, 1901; Marie L., born February 23, 1903, and Josephine M., born September 4, 1907. Since attaining his majority,

Mr. Slone has held Township offices, and been connected with school matters, and for seven years has been Township Clerk. An ardent Republican, he has attended to the duties of a citizen, not contenting himself with only casting his vote, but attending all of the preliminary meetings and seeing that good men are placed on the ticket. Mrs. Slone is a member of the Methodist Church, while Mr. Slone is a Christian Scientist and orders his life according to the teachings of Mrs. Eddy. Both he and his wife are deservedly popular in their community, while as a business man, he is recognized as the soul of honor and good faith.

SLYDER, Luther B., a leading merchant of Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., a man of high character and business capacity, and one of the most popular and useful members of the community, was born in Fairview, Fulton County, Ill., February 26, 1861, a son of Simon F. and Mary E. (Beam) Snyder, who located in the above named county in 1855, on a farm of 110 acres. Selling this in 1869, the father moved to Livingston County, Ill., where he became the owner of 400 acres of land in Owego Township. On finally withdrawing from active labors, he took up his residence in Pontiac, Ill., living there in retirement for the rest of his days. His death occurred, in October, 1900, his wife having passed away March 5, 1899. Their family consisted of eleven children, of whom all but one are living at the present writing. Simon Snyder was a prominent factor in the public affairs of his township. In politics, he was a Democrat and held the office of Supervisor at the time of the destruction of the Pontiac court house by fire, being also a member of the board which supervised the building of the new court house. He was quite active in political affairs, serving as Assessor and in minor township offices, and discharging the functions of Justice of the Peace for many years. He joined the A. F. & A. M. in Fairview, Ill., and in later life became a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, of that order. While residents of Fulton County, he and his wife were connected with the Lutheran Church, but on changing their location to Owego Township, they became identified with the Congregational denomination. Soon after this removal to Livingston County, they organized a Sunday School, which met at their home until the schoolhouse was built. Simon Snyder donated the land on which this schoolhouse was erected, and was an earnest promoter of educational interests.

The early youth of Luther B. Snyder was passed on his father's farm, and he attended the common schools and the Illinois State Normal University. After finishing his studies, he went West, and was engaged in farming for three years. On returning to Illinois he entered the grain trade at Rugby, in which he continued between two and three years, going thence to Eyler, and being engaged two years in the same line there. He then took charge of a line of elevators for T. C. Bartlett & Co., of Peoria, Ill., remaining with that firm one year. At the end

of this period he began traveling for the Clark Coal Co., of Peoria, and maintained this connection four years. On July 1, 1897, he located at Graymont, Ill., where he has since been engaged in the grain, coal and chain-tile business, in which he has met with marked success. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Telephone Company, of Graymont, of which he was the principal promoter, and he has been active in all public enterprises involving the best interests of the village.

On July 8, 1885, Mr. Snyder was married to Nellie E. Mattison, of Odell, Ill., a daughter of Cyrus and Henrietta (Matteson) Mattison of that place. Politically, Mr. Snyder is a Republican, and although active in behalf of his party's success, has never been an aspirant for public office. He has served, however, as School Treasurer about six years, and was Town Clerk in Rook's Creek Township. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., being a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 262. He is also identified with Streator Lodge, No. 591, B. P. O. E.; and with the M. W. A.

SMITH, F. N., a prominent and extremely popular citizen of Pontiac, Ill., who is successfully engaged in the lumber trade, was born in Orange County, N. Y., January 13, 1863, a son of Ezra and Dertha J. (Corwin) Smith, natives of New York State and residents of Orange County during their entire lives. Two uncles on the maternal side, Hiram and Harvey Corwin, were killed in the Civil War. The mother of the subject of this sketch is a relative of the famous Senator and brilliant orator of Ohio, "Tom" Corwin. The paternal grandfather, Matthew Smith, was also a native of that county, and there his whole life was spent. The grandfather on the maternal side, Hiram Corwin, and his wife, Esther (Young) Corwin, were Orange County people likewise. Ezra Smith, the father, was a farmer by occupation, and a Democrat in politics. F. N. Smith was reared on the home farm, and received his education in the common schools. He came from New York to Pontiac, Ill., in 1882, and occupied the position of manager of the Chicago Coal & Lumber Company, a flourishing concern in the city, until 1896. In that year he started out for himself as a dealer in lumber, coal and building material, and also as a manufacturer of cement blocks. He owns his place of business, as well as other property in Pontiac, and is one of its most enterprising and substantial merchants.

On May 7, 1884, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Clara A. (Moreland) Lambert, born in LaSalle County, Ill., and a daughter of Hugh and Prudence (Jennings) Moreland, pioneer residents of LaSalle County, where both spent their last days. Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Smith became the parents of four children, as follows: Ida C. and Gladys M., both educated in the Pontiac High School; and Francis L. and Donald E., pupils in the public schools. Ida C. is a teacher, and Gladys M. assists his father in his office.

In politics, Mr. Smith is a Democrat, and

the high estimation in which he is held by his fellow townsmen is manifest in the majority of 180 votes received by him when elected Superintendent of Pontiac Township, in spite of a normal Republican majority of 600. He has also served as Alderman of the city. Fraternally, Mr. Smith is affiliated with Pontiac Lodge No. 262, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, and with Indian Aerie, No. 1483, F. O. E. He and his amiable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a man who has worked his way up through his inherent good qualities, and his success in business and politics is well deserved.

SMITH, Frank L.—To the man of average success the varied and substantial results achieved by Frank L. Smith seem out of all proportion to his comparatively brief tenure of his life and in no wise remarkable advantages or opportunities. Richly endowed with the qualities of initiative and resource, concentration and enthusiasm, and with his native town of Dwight as the setting of his ambitions, his varied responsibilities at the present time include his position as President of the First National Bank, head of a real estate business established in 1893, Revenue Collector of eight districts of Illinois, Ex-City Clerk, and City and Township Treasurer.

Born in Dwight, Livingston County, Ill., November 24, 1867, Mr. Smith is a son of John Jacob and Jane E. (Ketcham) Smith, the former of whom was born in Germany, and the latter in Dutchess County, N. Y. The maternal grandparents were Henry and Mary Ketcham. John Jacob Smith came to America with his parents in 1845, soon after locating in Livingston, Ill., where he continued his trade as a blacksmith. Frank L. was educated in the public and high school of Dwight, and at the age of nineteen years began clerking in the Chicago & Alton Railroad office, where he remained a year and a half. He then taught school for a year, and for the following two years clerked for the Rock Island Railroad Company in Chicago. Returning to Dwight in 1893, he engaged in the insurance, real estate and local business with W. H. Ketcham, and upon the dissolution of this partnership in November, 1895, took as his partner C. L. Romberger, to whose interest he succeeded in 1902, since which time he has conducted the business alone. It is one of the large and influential concerns of its kind in the county, and its present owner and manager is possessed of an invaluable fund of information concerning local and county land values.

Having amassed a moderate fortune in real estate, loans and insurance business, Mr. Smith, on February 1, 1906, started the First National Bank of Dwight, which had been incorporated in 1905, and of which he is President, Curtis J. Judd Vice-President, John R. Crighton Second Vice-President, and John J. Doherty Cashier. The bank has a capital stock of \$50,000, and a

surplus of \$10,000. It is one of the safe and dependable monetary institutions of Livingston County, notwithstanding its comparatively brief existence, and reflects the high character and integrity of the men directing its affairs. In keeping with his reputation as a conservative and far-sighted business man, Mr. Smith expresses also the highest political service in the community. He is staunchly devoted to the Republican party, and has been City and Township Treasurer and City Clerk since 1900. At the last convention he was a candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor, and December 29, 1904, was appointed United States Revenue Collector for the Eighth District of Illinois, and was a member of the Executive Committee of the Republican Convention. To all of these responsibilities he brings unquestioned honesty of purpose and thorough grasp of public utilities and needs, and, irrespective of political differences or prejudice, his administrative efforts have been well and favorably received.

He was especially instrumental in securing the election of Shelby M. Cullom to the United States Senate in 1906. February 8, 1893, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Erminie M. Ahern, a native daughter of Dwight. Mr. Smith fills a large place in the social life of the town, and profits by an ingratiating manner, invariable tact and ready memory of names, faces and personal characteristics. He has many friends and well wishers among the prominent men of the State; is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, of Pontiac, and the Hebron Lodge No. 75, Knights of Pythias, of Dwight. Rugged health, indomitable courage and large general capacity bespeak for him continued identification with public affairs and progressive interests of his native community.

SMITH, James A.—The history of Livingston County is very closely interwoven with the records of some of its citizens, for it has been their deeds that have developed this part of the State, and made the present prosperity possible. Among the families whose names are household words in this county is the Smith family, one of its most prominent representatives being the Hon. James A. Smith of Chatsworth.

Mr. Smith was born in Vermilion, Ohio, on the shores of Lake Erie, August 6, 1845, a son of Aaron Burr and Eliza Lucinda (Erwin) Smith. Aaron B. Smith was born at Morristown, N. J., but moved to Ohio after his marriage, and thence to Ottawa, Ill., in 1846, with his family, and there he died in 1887. Aaron B. Smith was one of the noted attorneys of his day, and was concerned in much of the litigation brought before the courts of this State. He was father of the bill presented to the State Legislature, providing for free public schools in Illinois, and especially for one in Ottawa.

After having passed through the graded schools of his adopted town, Ottawa, Mr. James A. Smith took the full high school course, and then studied law under his father, but when he

was seventeen, he became bookkeeper and cashier for Alschular & Co., of Ottawa, and held that position until he located in Chatsworth, Ill., in 1867. He then came to that city to engage in a grain business, there having been a favorable opening for it, and he carried it on successfully until 1880. He invested his money in gilt-edged realty loans, and amassed a comfortable fortune. In 1880 he bought the "Chatsworth Plaindealer," and developed it into one of the most reliable and popular organs of his part of the State. He still continues in charge of it, although his personal affairs are so heavy that he is forced to give them considerable attention.

Mr. Smith has been one of the leading Democrats of the State, serving as Representative from Livingston County, in the General Assembly for three terms (the 36th, 37th and 38th Assemblies), and was most active in all. During the session of the Thirty-sixth General Assembly, he was a member of the Committee on Education, and rendered good service on it. As Chairman of the Committee on Municipal Affairs of the Thirty-seventh Assembly, his work was most important, as it was during the Thirty-eighth, when he was Chairman of the Committee on Congressional Apportionment. He was on the steering committee during all three terms, and during the last two was disciplinarian of the steering committee. Mr. Smith had the honor of being one of the memorable 101 who cast their votes for General Palmer and was of the steering committee who managed so skillfully as finally to elect General Palmer to the United States Senate, as a Democrat, being the only Democratic Senator from Illinois since the War.

Not only in State affairs has Mr. Smith been popular, but has served as President of the Village Board of Chatsworth, during his incumbency effecting some notable reforms. Many much needed improvements were inaugurated, including the establishment of a good system of water-works, an electric-light plant and four miles of brick side walks laid. His thirteen years of service—nine years in succession—ended in 1895. For a quarter of a century Mr. Smith has been a member of the Chatsworth School Board, and for a number of terms has been its secretary. His interest in public schools has never wavered, and he is always in close touch with the schools, and understands their needs perhaps better than any other man in Livingston County.

Mr. Smith has served his party as delegate to all of the important county, State and Congressional Conventions for the past twenty-five years, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis in 1888. He was not in sympathy with the platform promulgated by the Chicago Democratic Convention of 1896. He is a most thorough believer in the fundamental principles of Democracy, and both personally and through the medium of his paper, he has always supported measures he believed to be for the best interests of his party. Not only does

he own one of the finest residences in Chatsworth, besides other property, but has large interests in the South, owning two cotton plantations, in Mississippi. While he has been devoted to his business interests, Mr. Smith has ever found time and opportunity to take a public-spirited share in the welfare of his town, and county, and has supported every measure which, in his opinion, would operate to the advancement of the community, or would benefit the citizens of Chatsworth.

SNETHEN, William G., for the last ten years a farmer on 240 acres of land in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., and also an active and influential participant in the civic affairs of the township, was born in Marshall County, Ill., September 11, 1857, a son of M. C. and Paulina (Gordon) Snethen, natives of Kentucky and Indiana, respectively, his father born in January, 1834, and his mother in October 1837. Abram Snethen, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Kentucky, and moved from that State to the vicinity of Logansport, Ind., at an early period. He was an evangelist of the "New Light" Christian church, and his traveling circuit included parts of Indiana and Illinois. Grandfather Snethen died at the age of ninety-seven years. The grandfather on the maternal side was William Gordon, a Baptist preacher, who came from the South to Paris, Ill., about the year 1842, moving thence to Peoria County, and still later to Marshall County, where his closing years were spent. He died, however, while on a visit to his son, at the front, during the Civil War. M. C. Snethen, father of William G., is a minister of the United Brethren church, and was an early settler in Indiana. About the year 1864 he located in Marshall County, Ill., whence, in 1873, he moved to Livingston County, where he and his wife now live. They became the parents of seven children, two of whom are deceased. In politics, the father is a supporter of the Republican party.

William G. Snethen was reared on a farm, and received a common school education. He has always carried on farming since reaching maturity, and owns considerable land in South Dakota. He was married August 10, 1882, to Florence Crabb, born in Tazewell County, Ill., November 10, 1862, a daughter of Archibald and Mary Ann (Dorward) Crabb, natives of Scotland, where her father was born in 1834, and her mother in 1839. They came to the United States before their marriage, the former in 1851, and the latter, in 1852, their marriage taking place in Tazewell County, Ill., December 25, 1860. Six children resulted from their union, one of whom is deceased. Mr. Crabb settled in Livingston County in 1865, buying 160 acres of land, and at present owns 240 acres in Pike Township, and 160 acres in South Dakota. In politics, he is a Democrat and has served twenty years as School Trustee, and about fourteen years as School Treasurer. He has been the incumbent in the office of Supervisor for twenty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Snethen have had five chil-

dren, as follows: Garnet E., born March 20, 1884; Raymond E., born November 9, 1885; Earl L., born October 11, 1887; Roy, deceased in infancy; and Ora E., born March 17, 1897. Garnet, Earl and Ora are at home, and Raymond is a bookkeeper in Chicago.

Politically, Mr. Snethen is a Democrat. He was elected Assessor of Pike Township in 1906, and reelected in 1907 and 1908. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Snethen is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

SNYDER, Ray F.—Among the native sons who are maintaining the pioneer records of their fathers, and establishing a precedent for others with their greater energy and greater wealth of opportunity, mention is due Ray F. Snyder, whose entire life has been spent in Livingston County, and the most of it in Amity Township, where he was born September 22, 1877. Mr. Snyder is a son of William and Margaret (McKee) Snyder, the former of Bureau County, and the latter of Ohio, and grandson of Daniel H. and Elizabeth (Crawford) Snyder, natives of Pennsylvania. The maternal grandfather was James McKee. William Snyder is one of the early settlers of Livingston County, and after his marriage, January 1, 1873, he bought eighty acres of land in Amity Township, which he still owns and occupies, and to which he has added until he owns 200 acres in one body. His oldest child, Jessie, is the wife of G. L. Potter, of Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County; Otis is at home; Ray F. owns his own farm in Amity Township; Grace is the wife of Burt Munson, of Cornell, Ill.; Ralph and Robert are at home with their parents.

Ray F. Snyder was educated in the public schools, also spent some time in college, and ever since old enough to appreciate culture and education, has been an earnest student of men and events. At the age of twenty-five years he left the home place and started out for himself as a renter of farms, and, after his marriage, June 10, 1904, to Alice Corrigan, a native of Chatsworth, Livingston County, and daughter of John and Jemima Corrigan, he rented the Chester Morris farm for three years. Thereafter he moved to the old McKee farm of 188 acres, in Section 22, Amity Township, to the ownership of which he has since succeeded. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of high grade cattle, hogs and horses. Among other improvements instituted by him is a modern dwelling of ten rooms, recently completed, and which is furnished with furnace, hot and cold water, gas and bath. Mr. Snyder hopes much from his productive farm, and its improvement is being carried forward with the zest and practical ability which has stood him in good stead as a renter. His home is brightened by the presence of two children, of whom Raymond was born March 25, 1906, and John William was born in November, 1906. Mr. Snyder is independent in politics, and in religion is a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church.

SONDERGAARD, Simon H., very favorably known in the town of Dwight, Ill., and its environs, as the joint proprietor of a flourishing dry-goods and men's furnishing store, was born in Denmark, February 25, 1866, a son of Adser H. and Christina (Nelson) Sondergaard, the father born in Denmark, January 11, 1840, and the mother in the same country, August 20, 1839. The part of Denmark where the birth of all occurred is now included in the German Empire. The paternal grandparents were Adser H. and Hannah Sondergaard, the former having been killed in the war between Denmark and Germany. Simon Nelson, a farmer by occupation, and Maria, his wife, were the grandparents on the maternal side. Adser H. Sondergaard, the father, is still a prosperous farmer in Germany. He and his wife had twelve children, of whom five sons and three daughters are living. Besides Simon, those coming to this country were: George, a clerk in Columbus, Neb.; and Johanna (Mrs. Rider) of Chicago.

Simon H. Sondergaard attended public school in his native land, and at the age of eighteen years, came to the United States alone, proceeding to Illinois and working by the month about five years, as a farm hand in the vicinity of Dwight. Next, he farmed a year on rented land, and following this, clerked in McWilliams & Smith's general store for three years, and for seven years, in Miller Brothers' dry-goods store. On March 1, 1902, he went into partnership with J. L. VanEman, and opened a dry-goods and men's furnishing store, in which they have met with deserved success and enjoy a steadily increasing trade. Mr. Sondergaard is a man of good business qualifications, close application to the affairs of his store and equitable dealing with all.

The marriage of Mr. Sondergaard took place May 27, 1897, in Dwight, Ill., Maria N. Petersen becoming his wife on that date. Mrs. Sondergaard was born in Dwight, Ill., March 30, 1877, and is the only child of Soren and Annie Christina (Miller) Petersen, natives of Denmark. Her father was a teamster by occupation. One child has resulted from this union,—Esther Christina Sondergaard, born May 7, 1904.

In politics, Mr. Sondergaard is a Republican, and has served four years as Alderman of Dwight. He and his wife are members of the Danish Lutheran church. He is a man of progressive and enterprising spirit, a useful citizen and popular throughout the community.

SPAFFORD, John C. (deceased).—While it is a melancholy fact that death leaves a vacancy no one can fill, and a void in the heart that yearns constantly for the presence of the beloved, yet it is true that, when a man has left behind him a record of a well-spent, blameless, self-sacrificing life, some of the terrible sorrow is assuaged. There are men who are always thoughtful of the rights of others, who are devoted husbands and public-spirited citizens, and their loss is always mourned by the community at large. The late John C. Spafford, whose untimely de-

mise occurred August 30, 1906, was a man whom the community in which he resided could ill afford to lose and after his death not only Saunemin but all of Livingston County was plunged in mourning, and thousands of messages of sympathy poured in to the bereaved widow. The "Saunemin Weekly Gazette" and other papers gave extended notices of this most excellent man, and all honor was done his memory.

Mr. Spafford was born December 8, 1864, in Fountain County, Ind., his parents being natives of England. The father was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1823, and emigrated to America in 1849, settling first in Fountain County, Ind., where he married in 1852. Later he moved to Ford County, Ill., and still later to Livingston County, and became the owner of several hundred acres of valuable land in that county and Kankakee County. Eight years prior to his death he went to Arkansas, hoping to obtain relief from the asthma from which he suffered. Six children were born to himself and wife, two boys and four girls, of whom two children now survive.

John C. Spafford alternated attending school with work upon the farm, and grew to manhood, receiving a good education in the schools of Pontiac. At the time of his demise he was the owner of 540 acres of excellent farming land in Livingston County as well as other valuable property. With the exception of a brief period in Arkansas and Southern California, where he went in search of health, Mr. Spafford spent his life in Livingston County, and was one of its most reliable and substantial men. He was a sufferer from a malady no amount of care and devotion could cure, and this caused his death. While in ill health for years, Mr. Spafford never allowed his disease to interfere with his thoughtfulness for others, or to mar the kindly disposition that was such a pleasing characteristic.

On October 26, 1904, Mr. Spafford was married to Miss Elizabeth Lannon of Saunemin, and one boy was born to them, but he died in infancy. The father of Mrs. Spafford is a prominent banker of Saunemin, and one of the leading men of this locality. She is one of a family of eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom she was the second in order of birth.

Mr. Spafford leaned towards the Methodist Church, while his wife is a Catholic. In politics he was a Democrat. Fraternally he was a Mason, and after his death his fellow Masons met and passed the following touching resolutions:

"Whereas, Through the will and purpose of Divine Wisdom and summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven, our friend and brother, J. C. Spafford, has been removed from our circle and association to eternal rest, Be it

"Resolved, That, in the death of Brother Spafford, Saunemin Lodge, No. 738 A. F. & A. M., has lost a worthy member, a man of generous and noble impulses and high ideals of manhood, whom to know was to love and esteem.

"Resolved, That we extend to the family and friends that measure of sympathy and thoughtful

consideration which shall prove helpful to them in the sad days of sorrow and disappointment.

"Resolved, That these resolutions become a part of the records of the Lodge, and that a copy be presented to the family, and that they be published in the Saunemin and Fairbury papers.

"I. M. LISH,
"Dr. C. F. Ross,
"A. CORDING,
"Committee."

The funeral services were held in the Methodist Church, the Rev. W. E. Shaw and Rev. J. W. Reynolds officiating, while the Masonic fraternity was in charge, the service being especially impressive. The floral offerings were beautiful tributes to the man who had won so many friends. Rev. Shaw preached from the appropriate text, "I go the way of all the earth," and when he concluded, everyone in the vast concourse was visibly moved.

SPAFFORD, Thomas L.—Among the old and representative families of Livingston County is that to which Thomas L. Spafford belongs, having been founded in this country by his father, Robert Spafford, a native of Lincolnshire, England, who was born in 1823, and emigrated to America early in life. He first settled in Indiana, where he lived two years and then moved to Fairbury, where two years later he settled on Section 24, entering land from the government, which has remained in the family without a transfer ever since. Although a baker by profession, after coming to the United States he followed farming, and was thus engaged at the time of his death in 1899. The maiden name of his wife was Lucy Hill, also a native of England. Their marriage took place in Indiana, and they had four children, two of whom still survive—Thomas L. and Mrs. J. A. Rich of Section 23.

Thomas L. Spafford was born on his present farm December 29, 1860. On March 6, 1895, he married Adabell Rich of the same township, and the following children have been born to them: Gertrude, ten years of age; Charles Robert, eight years of age; John Merrill, five years of age, and the baby. In their religious affiliations Mr. and Mrs. Spafford are Methodists and are active in church work, as well as liberal contributors. Politically, Mr. Spafford is a very prominent Democrat, and his popularity as a man is indicated by the fact that he has just been re-elected for a third term as Supervisor of the Township in a strictly Republican community. He is also School Trustee and School Director, and takes a deep interest in educational matters. Mr. Spafford as a Mason is a member of Saunemin Lodge, No. 738, Fairbury; Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M.; a Knight Templar, belonging to St. Paul Commandery No. 738 of Fairbury.

The farm owned and operated by Mr. Spafford is a large one, consisting of 540 acres of as good land as is to be found in the county. All the fences and buildings upon it are in excellent condition, while his stock is well kept up and

his fields are rendered productive in the latest and most scientific manner. He has established a reputation as a thoroughly up-to-date farmer, and successful business man.

SPRINGER, Nathan.—An honorable position among the successful farmers of Amity Township is accorded Nathan Springer, who owns eighty acres of land, in the cultivation of which he finds a congenial as well as profitable occupation. Mr. Springer was born in Vermillion County, Ill., June 9, 1845, and is the third oldest of the five sons and nine daughters of his parents, Nathan and Lydia (Lucas) Springer, natives of Brown County, Ohio. Nathan Springer brought his wife with an ox-team to Vermillion County when few evidences of civilization abounded there, and eventually his own and his wife's parents came to the State, the grandfather Lucas dying in Vermillion County in 1852. Grandfather Springer came early to Livingston County, settled in Amity Township, where his daughter was the first white person to be married in the township. In Vermillion County Nathan Springer farmed for several years, and in June, 1833, sold his farm and came to Long Point Township, Livingston County, where he bought 120 acres in Section 25. This was raw prairie land, and in 1854 he erected a substantial log house which still stands a reminder of the predominating style of architecture of that time. Mr. Springer engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and achieved fair success before his death on January 29, 1872, at the age of seventy years. The wife who survived him was born in 1807, and died at the home of her son, Nathan, in March, 1891. Of her eleven children, two besides Nathan are living, and of these Mahala is the widow of Wilson Fenton, and lives in Cornell, this state, and Lorette lives in Bartonville, Ill.

Far more than the public schools, observation and experience have contributed to the knowledge of Nathan Springer, and he is generally considered a well informed and public spirited farmer. He was still on the home farm when the strife between the North and South culminated in the Civil War, and, on August 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until his honorable discharge in Washington, June 8, 1865. He participated in many of the memorable battles of the War, and received three gun shot wounds, besides contracting fever which incapacitated him for some time. Returning to his father's home, he remained there until his marriage, September 12, 1866, to Catherine Carpenter, a native of Monroe County, Ohio, born January 29, 1848. Mrs. Springer is a daughter of Robert and Catherine (Miller) Carpenter, and grand-daughter of Joseph and Mary Carpenter and John Miller, Amity Township, pioneers of 1855. The parents of Mrs. Springer, engaged in farming for the balance of their lives, the father dying January 29, 1873, and the mother August 4, 1864.

After his marriage Mr. Springer settled on a rented farm in Amity Township for a year, and then bought forty acres in Long Point Township, where he remained fourteen years. He then sold his land and shifted his fortunes to the State of Kansas, but not meeting with the anticipated success, returned at the end of a year and, in 1884, rented a farm in Amity Township. The following year he bought eighty acres in Section 19, the same township, a part of which was improved, and he since has labored earnestly to make of his place a modern and valuable home, repairing many old buildings and in 1896 erecting his present frame dwelling of two stories. Mr. Springer raises, besides general produce, horses, cattle and hogs, and he has excellent barns, corn cribs, and stock sheds for the care of his products. To Mr. and Mrs. Springer have been born the following children: Sarah E., born November 16, 1867, died December 3, 1871; Robert M., born July 10, 1869, a resident of Cornell, Ill.; Charles Walter, born November 4, 1870, a farmer of Amity Township; Nathan, born September 19, 1872, living with his father; Alonzo, born November 6, 1875, now of Perry, Iowa; Otto Clark, born July 19, 1879, died March 22, 1898; Martha, born July 4, 1885, and Francis Dorwin, born November 26, 1887, both living at home.

SPRINGER, Uriah, a well known and prosperous merchant of Graymont, Ill., and for many years one of the leading citizens of the western portion of Livingston County, was born in Amity Township, that county, May 7, 1838. He is a son of William and Sarah (Pennell) Springer, natives of Ohio. The paternal grandparents, Uriah and Nancy (Davis) Springer were Virginians by nativity, who settled in Livingston County in 1830, and spent the remainder of their lives on a farm. John Pennell, the grandfather on the maternal side, moved from Ohio to McLean County, in the year above mentioned, and followed farming on land which he owned in the vicinity of Towanda, until the time of his death. William Springer, the father, who was a farmer by occupation, accompanied his parents to Livingston County in 1830, and died in 1841, his wife surviving him until 1848. They had five children, two of whom are living. Politically, William Springer was a Democrat.

Uriah Springer was reared by his aunt, Rachael Springer, and received his education in the common schools. His first experience in mercantile affairs was gained by selling goods on the road, in which occupation he continued for a considerable period. During the last eighteen years he has conducted a store in Graymont, carrying a stock of notions, drugs and patent medicines, oils, etc., and has been very successful in this business. He has a pleasant and comfortable residence, and his sister, Mrs. Nancy Hopper, who is seventy-three years of age, keeps house for him.

In politics, Mr. Springer is a Democrat, and is serving his fifth term as Tax Collector. For

eight years he held the office of Justice of the Peace, and discharged the duties of Postmaster at Amity, Ill., two years, and at Graymont, twelve years and a half. He and his worthy sister are greatly respected by all who know them.

STANFORD, David J., a prominent citizen of Chatsworth, Ill., and at present County Surveyor of Livingston County, was first elected to his present office in the fall of 1878, and has been continuously re-elected since that period, so that he has served in this same capacity for thirty years. Fully half of his work has been in connection with Livingston County drainage matters, and plans for public and private drainage elsewhere. He has also had charge of extensive drainage enterprises in Iroquois County, Ill., and in the State of Iowa.

Mr. Stanford was born in Oneida County, N. Y., October 15, 1836, and grew to manhood on a farm. After receiving a common school education he taught school for a time, and then pursued a scientific course in Whitestown Seminary. Ten years of his time were spent in farming and teaching, and at the end of this period, in 1861, he came to Illinois. In the summer of 1862 he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry at Ottawa, LaSalle County, and served in the Army of the Cumberland, taking part in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. On December 7, 1862, the brigade to which his regiment was attached was captured, and, after being paroled, was sent to Parole Camp at Columbus, Ohio. It was exchanged and subsequently stationed at Camp Douglas, Chicago, on guard duty. Next, it was ordered back to Tennessee. Mr. Stanford was discharged from service in the winter of 1862-63 at Chattanooga, Tenn., on account of physical disability. Mr. Stanford was a Corporal, and during his period of service was detailed for duty at brigade headquarters, and at times, in the quartermaster's department. On returning to LaSalle County, Ill., he taught school for a while, and in 1866 bought land in Charlotte Township, Livingston County, two miles northwest of Chatsworth, following farming until 1878, although he taught his home district school and the Chatsworth school in 1868-69. The latter school then had four teachers and occupied two buildings. His associates in teaching were Misses Henderson and Hall, the latter a niece of M. H. Hall, and Miss Jennie Lucas.

Up to that period Mr. Stanford had only practiced surveying locally, but in 1878 he was elected County Surveyor and his services were in great demand. About that time three railroads were built across the country and a number of new towns were laid out, greatly increasing the duties devolving upon the surveyor's office. The Legislature had also passed a drainage law, establishing drainage districts, and as a result tile-draining was beginning to be in vogue. His work has also involved the laying out of city

sewers, etc., and thus his thirty years in the county surveyorship have been a busy period. In 1901 he moved from his farm to Chatsworth.

The marriage of Mr. Stanford took place in LaSalle County on January 1, 1866, to Lydia F. Robinson, who was born near Portland, Maine, and was brought to LaSalle County by her parents when twelve years of age. The children resulting from this union are as follows: Alice L. (Mrs. James Heald), who lives in Monroe County, Mo., where Mr. Stanford owns a stock farm; Albert D., who is connected with the elevator at Bardolph, Ill.; Fred C., formerly manager of the electric light plant at Chatsworth, and now General Manager of the Idaho Consolidated Power Company, at Pocatello, Idaho; and M. Myrtle, wife of Charles B. Curtis, Manager of the Chatsworth Telephone Exchange.

Mr. Stanford is a charter member of the Illinois State Society of Engineers and Surveyors, and for many years has been an expert in his profession. Politically, he is an old time Republican, and has always been prominent and active in the affairs of his party. He is President of the Chatsworth School Board, and holds other local offices.

STEICHEN, Clement, now retired from active pursuits and residing at Dwight, Ill., where he lives in the enjoyment of a handsome competency, was, for twenty years, one of the most energetic farmers in Livingston County. He was born in Luxemburg (now a part of) Germany, December 18, 1841, and is a son of Clement and Anna (Clement) Steichen, also Luxemburgers, born, respectively, in 1793 and 1803. The maternal grandparents were Philip and Katrina Krier, the former a farmer in the same country. Clement Steichen, Sr., was a farmer on a small scale in Luxemburg five years, and served as a cannoner in the army of Napoleon, participating in the great emperor's march over the Alps to Russia and surviving its terrible hardships, but receiving two wounds. He and his wife were the parents of six sons and one daughter, only one of whom is living. Clement Steichen was the youngest of the family, and the only one to come to the United States. He attended public schools in Luxemburg, and after working four years on his father's farm, was employed on farms in France. In 1867, he landed on these shores, proceeding directly to Illinois, and buying 80 acres of land in Goodfarm Township, Grundy County, for \$1,000. After living there ten years he moved to Livingston County, and purchased 160 acres in Dwight Township. On this farm he spent twenty years, increasing its extent to 480 acres. In 1897, he withdrew from active business life, and established his residence in Dwight, where he built a comfortable home in the northern part of the town. He has been one of the most successful farmers of the county, and richly deserves this prosperity and comfort of his later years. Including his first passage to this country, he has crossed the ocean seven times, his health being so vigorous

that he never missed a meal on any of the trips.

On April 16, 1866, Mr. Steichen was married in his native country, to Angelic Thiry, born in Luxemburg, August 16, 1836. Mrs. Steichen is a daughter of Joseph and Kathrine (Timer) Thiry, who passed their entire lives in the land of their birth, the father dying in 1843. His wife was born in 1800. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Steichen resulted in six children, namely: Katie, the wife of Nicholas Mamer, of Campus, Ill.; William, deceased; Clement, who follows farming just east of Dwight; Mary, at home; George J., who was with the Dwight Hospital Corps in the Spanish-American War, and now lives on the homestead farm; and Lizzie, who married John Niesen, a farmer near Odell, Livingston County.

Mr. Steichen is a Democrat in politics, but never sought public office. He has, however, served as School Director, acting in the capacity of Clerk of the Board, for seventeen years. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

STEICHEN, Clement, Jr., an enterprising and successful farmer located just east of Dwight, Ill., is a son of Clement and Angelic (Thiry) Steichen, a complete record of whose lives appear elsewhere in this connection. The subject of this biographical narrative was born in Grundy County, Ill., November 13, 1870, and after receiving his education in the district schools of Livingston County, Ill., at twenty-one years of age began farming on 240 acres of land a little east of Dwight, which he rented from his father. At first, his brother William was associated with him in this undertaking, later his brother George being his partner for some time. Clement Steichen, Jr., has rented the farm continuously for sixteen years, his labors being attended by profitable results. He is a very energetic and thorough farmer, and besides his general farming operations, he runs a threshing machine which is largely patronized by his neighbors and acquaintances throughout the township. He is much liked in his locality and bears a first-class reputation.

Mr. Steichen was married in Bureau County, Ill., December 28, 1898, to Helen Dwyer, born in LaSalle County, Ill., October 5, 1876. Mrs. Steichen is a daughter of Richard and Mary (Dee) Dwyer, natives of Ireland. Her father died when she was two and one-half years old, her mother having passed away a year previously, and Helen Dwyer was reared in Bureau County by her grandmother, Bridget Dwyer, living in the village of Arlington. Mr. and Mrs. Steichen have been blessed with four children, as follows: Mary Angeline, born October 11, 1899; Catherine Irene, born July 1, 1902; Marjorie Elizabeth, born April 13, 1904; and Clement Joseph, born February 21, 1906.

Politically, Clement Steichen, Jr., is an active supporter of the Democratic party, and has served as School Director, acting in the capacity of clerk of the board for six years. In religion

he and his good wife are adherents of the faith of the Catholic church. Fraternally, he is identified with the Knights of Columbus.

STEICHEN, George J., an intelligent and progressive young farmer in the southern part of Dwight Township, Livingston County, Ill., and, withal, a man of most genial temper and popular with all classes, was born in Grundy County, Ill., October 20, 1875. He is a son of Clement Steichen, a record of whose personal and family history appears in a separate section. George J. Steichen was the fifth of six children born to his parents, and in boyhood attended the district schools of his neighborhood, afterwards being a student for three years in the Dwight High School. He was eighteen months old when brought to Livingston County and grew up on the paternal farm. After finishing his studies, he worked for his father until he reached the age of twenty-two years. At the time of the Spanish-American War he enlisted in Company H, Fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he got as far as Newport News, but was finally transferred to the Dwight Hospital Corps. Later, he became a member of the "Crack Drill Team" which went from Dwight, to exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition. From 1897 to 1901, with the exception of the period thus spent, together with his elder brother, Clement, he was engaged in operating his father's farm of 240 acres, situated a mile and a half east of Dwight. Since 1901 he has rented the latter's old place, of equal extent, in South Dwight Township. In 1904 he bought 240 acres in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, which he rents out. Besides general farming, he devotes considerable attention to raising Duroc-Jersey hogs, and has met with deserved success in all undertakings.

On September 17, 1901, Mr. Steichen was united in marriage at Dwight, Ill., with Maude Beatrice Stephens, born in Grundy County, Ill., October 11, 1882. Mrs. Steichen is a daughter of Charles and Hattie (Gleason) Stephens, natives of Goodfarm Township, Grundy County, where her father is a farmer. Her grandparents came from New York State at an early period, and settled in that locality. Mr. and Mrs. Steichen have three children: William Reed, born January 2, 1904; Clifford Clement, born January 23, 1905, and George Richard, born August 25, 1907.

In politics, George J. Steichen is a supporter of the Democratic party, but not an office-seeker. In religion he is an adherent of the Catholic faith. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Dwight Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

STERRENBURG, Peter, for many years a prosperous and highly respected merchant of Charlotte, Livingston County, Ill., where he is the senior member of the firm of Sterrenberg & Sons, was born in Germany, September 24, 1838, and was reared and schooled in his native coun-

try, remaining there until 1867. In that year he came to the United States, locating in Minonk, Ill., where he followed the trade of a carpenter, which he had learned in the fatherland. After living in Minonk about eighteen months he moved to Danforth, Ill., and continued in the same occupation there for fourteen years. During the period of his residence in Danforth he visited Germany with his wife, spending several months amid the scenes of his youth. In 1883 he took up his residence in Charlotte, Ill., working at his trade for the next three years, and then engaging in merchandizing in connection with F. R. Manssen. This partnership lasted twenty years, the firm being known as Sterrenberg & Manssen. In 1906 Mr. Manssen sold his interests in the concern, which has since been conducted under the firm style of Sterrenberg & Sons.

The marriage of Peter Sterrenberg took place in Danforth, Ill., March 19, 1877, on which date he was wedded to Helene Smedt, who was born in Germany, March 13, 1850, and came to the United States just before she became the wife of the subject of this sketch. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Sterrenberg resulted in six children, as follows: John P., Henry L., William G., Louis J., Fred H. and Dena M. Louis J. Sterrenberg holds the office of Postmaster of Charlotte, and acts as agent for the American Express Company.

On political questions Mr. Sterrenberg has always been a supporter of the Republican party. He and his helpful wife are members of the German Lutheran Church.

STERRY, Christopher Williamson.—The story of a life of arduous and intelligent application, such as might be told of many pioneers of Livingston County, finds another illustration in the biography of Mr. Sterry, who came to Illinois in an early day, took up a quarter section of raw prairie land in Livingston County, broke the first furrows in the virgin soil, made all the improvements constituting a model farm, invested his earnings in property and eventually became one of the moneyed men of his county, as well as one of its most honored and upright citizens. From the time of his arrival in the county in 1857 until his death, which occurred in Pontiac January 8, 1901, he was more or less intimately associated with all the movements for the upbuilding of his community, and was particularly staunch in his belief in the future prosperity of Pontiac, evidencing this belief by large and important investments.

Born in Franklin County, Maine, August 12, 1826, Christopher Sterry was a son of Samuel and Hannah (Harding) Sterry, also natives of Franklin County, Maine. His education was such as the schools of his day and locality afforded, but was enlarged by subsequent habits of reading and close observation. Coming to Illinois in 1852, he settled in Chicago and opened a coal business, which he conducted for five years. In 1857 he came to Livingston County and bought 160 acres of raw prairie land in

Esmen Township. Under his painstaking care the land was brought to a high state of cultivation. After having followed farming pursuits with exceptional success for many years, about 1886 he moved to Pontiac and afterwards devoted his attention to the supervision of his interests, which included the erection and management of the Sterry block, the largest business building in Pontiac. For many years he served as a trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church and always was a generous contributor to denominational enterprises. The principles of the Republican party were supported by him for some time, but eventually he transferred his allegiance to the cause of prohibition. Frequently he was chosen to occupy positions of trust in his township.

The first marriage of Mr. Sterry took place September 21, 1847, when he was united with Elizabeth Day, a native of Maine, who died March 25, 1855. The three children born of their union died in infancy. November 28, 1858, he was united with Amanda Hadley, who died the following year, the only child of that union also dying in infancy. October 8, 1861, he was united with Mary C. Ross, who was born in Clark County, Ohio, a daughter of John and Catherine (Kiser) Ross, natives respectively of Kentucky and Pennsylvania. Her maternal grandfather was Samuel Kiser. The paternal grandparents, William and Winifred (Rector) Ross, were born in Pennsylvania. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Sterry has continued to make her home in Pontiac, where she has a host of warm personal friends among the people in whose midst for years she has lived and to whom, in sickness, sorrow and bereavement, she ever has shown a ministering sympathy. The wise industry of Mr. Sterry left her comfortably provided for, her possessions including the Sterry block, other property in Pontiac and 420 acres of improved land in Esmen Township. Six children were born of their union, namely: Eliza, wife of Dr. C. H. Long, of Pontiac, and they have two children, Christopher Sterry, and Mary Katherine; John L., who died October 20, 1884, at the age of twenty years; Hattie, who died in infancy; Mary E., who married E. M. Kirkpatrick, and lives in Parma, Idaho; Josephine, who died in infancy; and Jessie, who is the wife of Clarence B. Hurtt, resides in Boise City, Idaho, and has three children—John Nelson, Christopher Sterry, and Jessie Margarete.

STEVENS, Eber B.—Far distant and sterile Vermont has contributed many native and ambitious sons to the upbuilding of Livingston County, and it would seem that all bring with them westward something of the resource and thrift always necessary for even a fair amount of success in the Green Mountain State. No exception to this rule exists in Eber B. Stevens, whose forefathers were among the early tillers of its valley lands, and who was born in Caledonia County, Vt., August 11, 1826. When very young, Mr. Stevens accompanied his parents, Levi and Nancy (Stevens) Stevens, to

Erie County, N. Y., his father purchasing a farm there in 1831, and remaining thereon until disposing of the same in 1841. The next home of the family was in Erie County, Pa., whence they removed to Kalamazoo, Mich., in 1846, the father surviving this change but two years. The mother thereafter lived with her son, Eber B., until her death in 1868. She was a native of New Hampshire, while her husband was born in Vermont.

Eber B. Stevens followed the changing fortunes of his father until 1849, when he came to Grundy County, Ill., and there bought a farm of 160 acres. In February, 1850, he was united in marriage with Betsey Cullen, a native of Canada, and daughter of Matthew and Charlotte (Jeffrey) Cullen, and with his young wife settled on the new farm, being just in time to plan the work for the oncoming spring. The farm had on it a log cabin and about ten acres had been cleared, and the task of fitting it for tillage was an enormous one. However, the ambitious owner knew no such word as fail, and he eventually added to his land until he owned four hundred acres. Hereon he conducted general farming and stock-raising on a large scale, raising registered Poland-China hogs, and thoroughbred horses, cattle and sheep. Eventually, however, he gave to his children all but his present farm of 190 acres. In the summer of 1892 he bought three lots in Dwight, erected thereon a large frame house, and in November of the same year, moved into the new abode.

The first wife of Mr. Stevens died December 26, 1866, leaving four children, two having died in infancy: Charles, a farmer of Buena Vista County, Iowa; Darwin, living in the same state and county; Lottie, who died at the age of fourteen years, in 1872; and Eddie, a farmer of Rock County, Minn. In September, 1867, Mr. Stevens married Mrs. Fannie (Lewis) Trowe, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., a daughter of Elnathan and Polly (Densmore) Lewis, natives of Vermont, and who came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1845. Four years later, Mr. Lewis, who was a Baptist clergyman, moved to Grundy County, this State, and at Good Farm established the first Baptist Church in the county. He also was instrumental in securing the erection of the first school house in Good Farm Township, and each of his four daughters taught in this or succeeding log school houses in the county. He was regarded as among the most useful and influential citizens of the community, and after the hardships, privations and self-sacrifice required of the early ministry, he died December 25, 1853, at the age of forty-nine years. His wife, who was born on December 25, 1800, died in August, 1886. Before her marriage to Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Stevens was the wife of Dr. John F. Trowe, a native of Sunapee, N. H., and a physician of McHenry County, who died there January 12, 1860. Of their union there was a son, John Franklin, who lives with his mother. By this marriage, Mrs. Stevens is the mother of Fannie L., wife of Mr.

Lynden Isleam, a farmer and stock-dealer of Mazon, Ill.

Formerly a member of a Baptist church in Grundy County, five miles north, for the last thirty years, Mr. Stevens has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Dwight, and has contributed liberally of his means to its various channels of activity. He has been more than an incidental factor in local politics, as a Republican holding many offices, among them that of Township Treasurer for more than thirty years, Supervisor four terms and Highway Commissioner two terms. He is a broad minded and well posted farmer, and for more than half a century has been a keen observer of the trend of civilization in Livingston County. While living on his farm, three miles north and one and a half miles west of Dwight, he watched the rising fortunes of the village of Dwight, which in 1853 was marked by a pole, from the top of which a shiny tin pail gleamed in the bright sunshine. Near this pole has been built one, and later more houses, making it the nucleus of the present thriving and progressive community. In common with his neighbors Mr. Stevens has contributed to the changes which have swept over the hitherto unbroken prairies, and through them all his name has stood for the character and strength and morality of the best of the people here assembled.

STRATTON, Ellis L. (deceased).—The passing away of Ellis L. Stratton in 1896 was the removing of another of the all too few links of the early past of Livingston County with the present. His was not a character to be easily forgotten, and is held in affectionate remembrance for its real worth to mankind, and of him it may well be said that, although gone, his life and example remain as a heritage to his descendants. Mr. Stratton was born in Mansfield, Tioga County, Pa., January 12, 1826, a son of Seymour and Susan (Lownsberry) Stratton, natives of Connecticut and New York, respectively. Seymour Stratton was born in 1794, and died at his home in Pennsylvania, in 1873, after having passed his seventy-ninth birthday. The mother was born in 1803, and died in 1865 several years before her husband. They had these children: Lydia, Lafayette, Ellis L., Harriet, Dithton, Martin, Julia, Ruth, Josephine, Amelia and William. The family, separating, settled in Pennsylvania, Iowa, Illinois, Colorado and California.

Ellis L. Stratton was educated in the common schools of his native county, and at the Wellsboro (Pa.) Academy. After finishing his school days, he entered the employ of a man who operated a saw-mill, and when he was only twenty-three, he went into the lumber business. Later he went to LaSalle County, Ill., and from there came to Livingston County, where he bought land in 1849, on Section 8, Long Point Township, and began establishing a home in the wilderness. He had only fifty cents in his pocket when he came to the county. He later bought 120 acres of land, for which he paid \$2.50 per acre and

immediately commenced improving his land, finally increasing his holdings to 320 acres.

On January 17, 1856, Mr. Stratton was married to Sarah A. Miller, who was born in Smithfield, Bradford County, Pa., August 1, 1836, a daughter of John Wesley and Eliza (Kingsley) Miller. Mrs. Miller died while in young womanhood in Pennsylvania. The father subsequently married Jane Clark, and they came to Illinois in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Stratton became the parents of the following children: Luretta, born October 7, 1858, died October 5, 1860; Hattie, born April 1, 1862; John, born April 29, 1864, died November 15, 1877; Bert, born May 31, 1868, resides with his mother and sister Hattie in California; Carl, born June 10, 1872, is operating a portion of the old homestead on Sections 5 and 8 Long Point Township, and Ray L., born June 24, 1874.

Mr. Stratton was a practical farmer and stock-raiser and was a man of education and took pleasure in reading. He was a Mason, belonging to Chapter No. 112, and Lodge No. 552 at Rutland. In political matters he never espoused any particular party, preferring to vote for the man he believed best suited to the office. During his long and useful life Mr. Stratton did his duty in every way. He helped to advance the well being of the County, worked hard to gain a competence, always giving to his children tender care, excellent discipline and good advice, and when he died, not only they, but the whole community, suffered a real loss.

STRATTON, Ray L.—To cultivate successfully land that has been in the family for years, and to make upon it further improvements, is worthy of more than passing mention, and it is this loyalty to the family home that tends towards the centralizing of family ties and the upbuilding of higher civilization. Ray L. Stratton, of Section 8, Long Point Township, was born on the homestead which he now occupies, June 24, 1874, a son of Ellis L. Stratton, one of the leading farmers of this locality, whose sketch is to be found elsewhere in this work. After receiving a good common school education, young Stratton went to Eureka College, Ill. Finishing there, he came home and, as long as his father lived, the young man worked under his instruction.

On May 24, 1896, Ellis L. Stratton passed away when he stood at the head of the agriculturists of his neighborhood, leaving three sons, Bert, Carol and Ray. The farm then consisted of 320 acres. For several years the family all lived together, then Bert and his mother and sister Hattie went to California in 1900, and Carol and Ray took sole charge of the home. Prior to the departure of the one brother, the three had added 120 acres to the homestead, making it 440 acres of as good land as can be found in Livingston County. In 1903 the two began breeding double Standard Poland-Durham cattle, and in 1906 they added the Percheron horses, having nine head of this class of regis-

tered stock. They are recognized leaders in stock-breeding, and are reliable and enterprising young men.

On February 17, 1900, Mr. Ray Stratton was married to Miss Margaret E. Lampe, born March 30, 1874, near LaRose, Marshall County, Ill., a daughter of Marcus and Olive (Bennington) Lampe, pioneers of the county, their father being now a retired resident of Long Point, Ill. He was a native of Germany. She was a native of Marshall County, Ill. They were married at LaRose, Ill. In 1875 moved to Livingston County, in Section 16, Long Point Township. He is a Republican; member of the Christian church. Mr. and Mrs. Stratton have had these children: Ruth Florene, born November 3, 1901; Ross Alonzo, born June 25, 1903; Florence Lucille, born July 25, 1906. Mr. Stratton is devoted to farming and stock-raising making it his life business. In politics he is a Prohibitionist and casts his vote for the candidates of that party. He took a great interest in the great crusade of 1908. In religious matters, he and his wife are members of the Church of Christ at Long Point, and both are very active in its good work. They are good Christian people, whose rearing has been along high-minded paths, and they are bringing up their little ones in the same way.

STRAWN, Christopher Columbus, lawyer of Pontiac, Ill. The earliest known record in America of the Strawn family is in Pennsylvania. In an old Quaker church in Quakertown, Bucks County, that State, there is a church record under date of 1671, which says in substance, that Mary Cooper was "testified against for marrying Launcelot Strawn, one not known amongst us," that is, one not a Quaker. The genealogy from Launcelot and Mary Cooper to date is, first, Jacob; second, Jacob; third, Isaiah, born October 28, 1758, near Quakertown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania; fourth, Jeremiah, born August 7, 1795, in Turkeyfoot, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; fifth, Eli, born March 27, 1817, in Perry County, Ohio; sixth, Christopher Columbus, the subject of this sketch, born August 22, 1840; seventh, Louis Francis, born in Omaha, Neb., November 2, 1866; eighth, Christopher Columbus, born between 4 and 5 o'clock, p. m., July 14, 1896, son of Louis Francis, and grandson and namesake of the subject of this sketch, and of the eighth generation from Launcelot.

The family have been typical pioneers, and in this country were early prominently identified with farming and the cattle trade on large scales, and to the occupation of farming and cattle-droving Eli Strawn devoted his attention after coming from Ohio to Illinois in 1829. He was over six feet in height, had black hair with grey eyes and a ruddy complexion, while his wife was of medium stature and dark complexion. The education of both was limited to the elementary branches acquired in the primary schools of their day, and both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and

regular attendants on the services of that denomination. Jeremiah Strawn, the grandfather of Christopher C., on coming to Illinois from Perry County, Ohio, in 1829, settled south of the Illinois River Valley one and one-half miles from Florid, Putnam County. About the same time came his three brothers and one sister, being Joel, who settled on the North Bluff of the same valley, four miles west of Ottawa in La Salle County; John, who settled on the South Bluff of the same valley, four miles in the southeasterly direction from what was then Richmond but is now Lacon, in Putnam now Marshall County; Jacob, who settled four miles southwest from Jacksonville, in Morgan County; and Elsie, wife of Joseph Armstrong, who settled on the south table land of the same valley about seven miles southwest from Ottawa, in La Salle County, and who was the mother of a large and prominent family of that name in that county.

The ancestors of the Strawns in this country were of Scotch blood, the name in Scotland being originally Strahan. Their Scotch ancestor, William Strahan, a lawyer and a man of letters, removed from Scotland to England in the latter part of the seventeenth century, where during his professional career he served six terms in the British House of Commons, and was the translator of "Domat's Civil Law" from the original French into the English language, in two volumes published in 1722. The late Reuben S. Strawn, Chief Justice of Oregon, was of this family. Records in Quaker churches in Western New York show the expulsion of Strawns from that communion on account of their enlistment in the Revolutionary Army, since which time the family seems generally to have been affiliated with other denominations of the Protestant faith.

Mrs. Elinor Strawn, the mother of Christopher C., was a daughter of Captain Lunsford and Nancy (Gale) Broadbuss, of Caroline County, Virginia, where Captain Broadbuss carried on an extensive tobacco plantation, but being strongly opposed to slavery, emancipated his slaves and removed to the east table lands of the Illinois River Valley, about one and one-half miles east of Lacon, then known as Richmond, in Marshall, then Putnam County, Illinois, where the marriage of their daughter to Eli Strawn took place January 1, 1838. The Broadbuss family, of Welch origin, have been in the United States from early colonial days.

Christopher C. Strawn acquired his primary education in the typical Illinois log school-house on his father's farm, the place of his birth, in the vicinity of Ottawa, Ill., and in the district school near his grandfather's farm in Putnam County. Still later, he attended the Lacon (Ill.) High School, in the meantime making his house with his grandfather Broadbuss. Then, after taking courses successively in the Umlauf Seminary at Ottawa, Illinois, in the Northwestern University (Evanston) up to his junior year, and in the Albany (N. Y.) Law School, he com-

pleted his law studies in the office of Arrington & Dent in Chicago, and in June, 1863, was admitted to the Illinois State Bar, and for the next two years was engaged in practice in Chicago. Then removing to Ottawa he there spent one year, when he went to Omaha, Neb., but fifteen months later returned to Illinois, locating in Pontiac, which has been his home and where he has continued in practice to the present time.

Mr. Strawn's youth was spent for the most part on the farm amid the customary conditions of that period. Inclined to the student life, he took an interest in law, literature and politics; in 1858 heard the debate between Lincoln and Douglas at Ottawa, and, although born and educated a Democrat, he thought Lincoln had the better of the argument over his adversary, and naturally took a deep interest in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of that event held in Ottawa in 1908. As a boy and young man, he was interested in such works as "Hugh Miller on The Rocks," Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables," Macaulay's Essays, Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," and history and Political Economy generally, but cared little for games or sports.

Under the first call for troops issued by President Lincoln the day after the fall of Fort Sumter, Mr. Strawn enlisted in Company I, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving from April 16, 1861, for three months. This was the first company organized in La Salle County, with Capt. Wm. L. Gibson in command. Col. W. H. L. Wallace, who was later killed at Shiloh, commanding a brigade. At the expiration of his term of service, although in the hospital, he tendered his re-enlistment for three years, but was rejected on the ground of disability, the physicians declaring him then unfitted for military service in any capacity. This was a serious disappointment to the ambitious young soldier. From the hospital he was sent to his home and for eight weeks was not expected to live, and for twenty-five years did not fully recover. Upon the breaking out of the Spanish-American War, Mr. Strawn again manifested his martial spirit by raising a regiment for that struggle, of which he was elected Colonel, but owing to the number of regularly organized State militia regiments already organized and ready for the field, Illinois' quota was full, and his regiment was not called into service.

On March 20, 1863, while reading law with Arrington & Dent in Chicago, Mr. Strawn was married at 187 Wabash Ave, Chicago, to Miss Clara Frances Bouvrain, born on the Bonaparte estate near Watertown, N. Y., January 14, 1843, a daughter of John B. and Rose (Dumont) Bouvrain, both parents being of straight French blood and birth. John B. Bouvrain, the father of Mrs. Strawn, served as a soldier under the First Napoleon in the celebrated campaign against Moscow in 1812, and three years later took part in the Battle of Waterloo, which ended the career of the famous French soldier. In entering upon his career as a soldier, Mr.

Bouvrain left school in Paris at the age of nineteen years. His father of the same name, was also a soldier in Napoleon's army, rising to the rank of Major in the "Old Guard," in which he served from the period of the campaign in Egypt up to the Battle of Waterloo. After the fall of Napoleon, the father and son and others of the "Old Guard," came to America with Joseph Bonaparte where they located on the large estates of the latter near Watertown, N. Y., and there Mrs. Strawn was born. For the first two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Strawn resided in Chicago, but in the spring of 1865 removed to Ottawa, Ill., a year later going to Nebraska, where they spent some fifteen months, first at Omaha and later at Columbus, Neb., in June, 1867, returning to Ottawa, Ill., and on September 1, 1867, locating at Pontiac, Ill., which has since been their home. At his various places of residence since being admitted to the bar in Chicago in 1863, Mr. Strawn has continuously followed the practice of his profession, alternated with brief intervals of newspaper work, at two different periods being the owner and manager of newspapers, first at Columbus, Neb., as proprietor and editor of the "Golden Age" in 1866-67, and again in 1907, occupying a similar connection with the "Pontiac (Ill.) Sentinel."

Mr. and Mrs. Strawn have had four children, named respectively: Virginia Bonaparte, born in Chicago, December 28, 1863, died June 24, 1879; Louis Francis, born in Omaha, Neb., November 2, 1866; Roscoe Belmont, born in Pontiac, Ill., November 30, 1868, died September 26, 1907; and Christopher Columbus, Jr., born in Pontiac, December 25, 1871, died October 12, 1879. Mrs. Strawn still survives. Louis Francis Strawn, survivor of his three brothers and sister, is prominent as a lawyer and student of the military art, having studied at the Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., and had experience in the Porto Rican campaign in the Spanish-American War as a First Lieutenant in Company F, Third Regiment (Infantry) I. N. G., in which regiment he is now the ranking major. He has a son Christopher Columbus, born at 4:15 p. m., July 14, 1896, at 428 W. Washington St., Pontiac, Ill.; Virginia Lee, born at 11:30 p. m., June 25, at 514 N. Main St., Pontiac, Ill.; and Marjorie Frances, born at 11:15 p. m., October 23, 1907, at 819 No. Chicago Street, Pontiac. They are of the now latest generation from Launcelot Strawn. The wife of Louis Francis, was Esther Marie Tracy, whose parents, Albert S. and Mary Tracy, were born respectively in Jefferson and Oswego Counties, N. Y. They reside in Pontiac, Illinois, where he has practiced his profession of law and arms for more than twelve years.

In religious faith, Mr. Strawn is a Presbyterian, having become a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Pontiac December 11, 1904. Fraternally, he is associated with T. Lyle Dickey Post, Grand Army of the Republic, Pontiac, Ill., of which he was a charter member, and has served as Commander, Chaplain and in minor positions.

The official positions held by Mr. Strawn include that of State's Attorney for the Twenty-first Judicial Circuit composed of Livingston, Kankakee and Iroquois Counties, to which he was appointed by Gov. John M. Palmer in October, 1870, as successor of Mason B. Loomis (resigned) after a sharp contest with James N. Orr, of Kankakee County, as competitor. After serving out the unexpired term of his predecessor, Mr. Strawn was for three terms elected City Attorney of Pontiac; was also a member of the local committee which secured the location of the Illinois State Reform School (now the State Reformatory) at Pontiac, in 1869; was a member of the Committee that received Gen. Grant at dinner at Pontiac in 1880; was Chairman of the Committee that received President Roosevelt the day he delivered the dedicatory address of the Livingston County Soldiers' Monument at Pontiac, Ill., June 3, 1903, and served as President of the Lincoln Centennial Anniversary Exercises at Pontiac on February 12, 1909.

Reared as a Democrat, Mr. Strawn confesses he got his first "political jolt" when he heard the reply of Lincoln to Douglas in the debate at Ottawa in 1858, although he could not then understand how it was possible for Douglas to be in the wrong. As a consequence he remained, with here and there a side-step, with the party in which he was born until 1865, when the conviction of the fundamental errors of the Democratic party and of the sophistries of Douglas as an apologist for slavery, dawned upon him in the light of the Civil War and the struggle for the preservation of the Union, and he then became a Republican. He stumped the State for Gen. Grant for President in 1868 and 1872; was a supporter of the philanthropist, Peter Cooper, on the Greenback or Independent Reform ticket in 1876; in 1878 was the nominee of the same party for Congress in opposition to Greenbury L. Fort, Republican, and Thomas M. Shaw, Democrat, carrying his own county and several of the principal towns of the district, and reducing Fort's majority over the combined opposition from 3,000 at the election of two years previous to 139 votes. In 1890 he was endorsed by the Livingston County Republican convention for Congress, but was defeated in the District Convention by J. K. Wheeler of Kankakee. He was again endorsed by his county for the same position in 1894, but lost in the District Convention to Walter Reeves of Streator. For President, he favored Gen. Grant for a third term in 1880, but was a supporter of Gen. Weaver at the election; of Gen. Benj. F. Butler in 1884; of Gen. Benjamin Harrison in 1888 and 1892; of Mr. Bryan in 1896; of Mr. McKinley in 1900; of Roosevelt in 1904; and of Mr. Taft in 1908, and on general principles he is a Republican, always sustaining that party in everything involving its original tenets. Today he is a zealous admirer of Mr. Roosevelt, whom he ranks in his direct and patriotic methods with Lincoln and Washington in his own land and with Cromwell in England, and whose future he believes he foresaw when he read the first

speech made by Roosevelt at St. Paul after the Spanish-American War; is a warm supporter of the political policies and methods of Gov. Deneen and believes in a direct, plurality primary law, the deep waterway, and other related policies, State and National.

SUTTON, George A.—Public opinion is largely molded by the newspapers, especially in the smaller places, where the local paper is a power. In Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill., "The Blade" is the Republican organ for the county and its editor, Mr. Sutton, has many enthusiastic readers and followers. Mr. Sutton is the junior member of the firm of Fulton & Sutton, publishers, and senior member of the firm of G. A. Sutton & Co., real estate dealers. He was born at New Milford, Pa., June 2, 1861, a son of the N. K. and Henrietta (Reynolds) Sutton, and great-grandson of the Sutton who was Quartermaster during the Revolution. Receiving a common school education, Mr. Sutton early commenced earning his own living as a clerk, in his boyhood being employed in a grocery store owned by N. K. Sutton & Son, but in 1879 left home and going to St. Paul remained there a short time when he left that city for Braidwood, Ill., where he found employment in a general store owned by L. H. Goodrich. In September, 1882, he came to Fairbury to accept a clerkship for Walton Brothers Company, grocers, and after nine years of faithful service, in 1892 embarked in a grocery business for himself, but later for seven years was a traveling salesman for the Royal Worcester Corset Company. In 1888 he had purchased "The Fairbury Blade," a Republican paper, with the printing plant connected with it, which is now owned by the firm of Fulton & Sutton, who also are editors of the paper. In 1901 Mr. Sutton formed the firm of G. A. Sutton & Co., for the purpose of buying, selling and handling real estate and the success which has attended this venture attests to his good judgment in embarking in it.

Mr. Sutton was married on February 24, 1886, at New Milford, Pa., to Nellie Moss and they have two children, Kate E. and Hugh M. The family have a delightful home on the corner of Third and Ash Streets, Fairbury, where they dispense a charming hospitality. Mr. Sutton is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken all its degrees in Fairbury. He is also a Mystic Shriner, belonging to Mahomet Lodge of Peoria. He and Mrs. Sutton are Episcopalians. Mr. Sutton is a man who has learned from direct contact with the sources of contemporary knowledge, and in his mature years has given his attention to his literary work, although he is practical enough to be able to look after the business end as well and to make a complete success of anything he undertakes.

SWARTZ, John August, one of Long Point Township's representative citizens, whose superiority as a general farmer and successful stockraiser is demonstrated by the excellent condition of the farm of 320 acres which he oper-

ates in Section 23, together with the fine herds of cattle and large amount of stock that can be seen distributed over his pastures. Although Mr. Swartz is one of America's best satisfied citizens, he is not a native of the United States, having been born June 17, 1859, at Smolander, Sweden, where his father lived and died. America is indebted to that land for many of her best citizens, and among those who left Sweden, May 6, 1881, to find a home on America soil, was John August Swartz.

Mr. Swartz found employment near Verna, Ill., where he labored for three years for Robert Hloff, saving his money in the meanwhile, so that by 1885, he was able to rent a small farm in Marshall County. As his mother had been left a widow, the son wished to care for her and sent her the means to join him, which she did reaching Marshall County in 1886. He was a member of a family of nine children whose record runs as follows: Augustus William remained in Sweden. Frank A. came to America in 1881 and now lives in California. John August was the third in order of birth. Otto A. came to Illinois and was subsequently killed in a railroad accident at Peoria. Matilda married Carl Boastron, and they live in California. Christiana married Charles Peterson, who is a farmer near Groton, S. Dak. Emma married Emil Varner and lives at Peoria, Ill. Carl F. enlisted in the regular army, served in 1898 in Cuba and was sent to the Philippine Islands, where later he was killed in a battle with the natives. Oscar lives at Lacon, Ill.

After his mother joined him, Mr. Swartz remained on his farm for a time, she keeping house for him, but later he went to work again by the month, and on August 20, 1888, he was married to Miss Ida Gustafson, who was born August 15, 1862, in the same parish in Sweden as had been his home, and she came to America in 1886. They had been neighbors and friends all their lives. After his marriage, Mr. Swartz continued to work by the month for the next three years but in 1891 rented a farm near Winona, from a Mr. Evans, which he conducted until 1895, when he went to Dana, LaSalle County, Ill., when he rented a farm from W. T. Law. In 1904 he rented Jesse Evert's farm and here he has resided ever since. Mr. Swartz is an excellent judge of stock and has given a great deal of attention to the Norman horse and at present has twenty head of those noble animals. His sleek cattle are a cross between the Hereford and Short-horn, these being excellent for both milk and beef. In hogs Mr. Swartz has found after experimenting, that the Poland-China do best in Illinois. At the present writing (1908) he has 175 acres of his land in corn and the promise of one of the greatest crops of this section.

Mr. and Mrs. Swartz have had a family of five children born to them, as follows: "Huldah, born at Winona, Ill., February 24, 1889; Edna, born September 18, 1892; Elsa, born August 29, 1897; Marie, born September 16, 1900; and Orval, born August 10, 1903. Mr. Swartz

and family belong to the Swedish Lutheran church. Since becoming a citizen he has supported the principles and candidates of the Republican party. He is a self-respecting, honorable and useful man, and is highly regarded by all who know him.

SWIFT, William H.—The life of the farmer and stock raiser of Central Illinois, while a healthful and remunerative one, is not one of leisure. Nature demands her toll, and the man who wishes to be successful must spend many years of hard and faithful labor before he accomplishes what he sets out to do; but success is certain to come to those who are in earnest, and a finely cultivated prosperous property is worthy of any amount of hard toil. William H. Swift, of Long Point Township, Livingston County, Ill., has spent a long period as an agriculturist and stock man, and he is now the owner of an excellent tract of eighty acres in Section 21, Long Point Township, as well as another property of 120 acres in Emmet County, Iowa. Mr. Swift was born on his present farm, November 9, 1864, a son of Robert S. and Sarah H. (Smallwood) Swift. Mr. Swift's parents were born, reared and married in Coshocton County, Ohio, and came to Livingston County, Ill., about 1850, purchasing eighty acres of land in Long Point Township, this property being then a raw prairie. Mr. Swift (Sr.) developed this land into a well cultivated farm and kept adding thereto until he owned 120 acres, on which he spent all of his life. He was one of the Township's progressive men and always bore an enviable reputation for honesty and integrity. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Company H, Seventy-seventh Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served his term of service, as a brave and faithful soldier. For some time he was incapacitated for duty and was taken to the hospital at Keokuk, Iowa. Ever since the war, Mr. Swift had been suffering from heart trouble, and while on a pleasure trip from Ottawa to Clambake Shoals down the Illinois River, he was stricken and called to his final rest, August 13, 1901, his burial taking place at Long Point. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, as follows: Francis M., real-estate agent of Streator, Ill.; Henry A., a retired farmer of Salina, Kan.; Jennie, the wife of D. H. Carlton, a farmer of Section 35, Long Point Township; Rev. John H., of Sandy Lake, Pa.; H. Toler, Second Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction, at Springfield, Ill.; M. Eva, wife of Rev. Stephen H. Zendt, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and William H.

William H. Swift was born and reared on the farm which he now occupies, and was educated in the public schools of which he has for many years been a Director. In 1885, he and his brother, John H., took charge of the old homestead, and three years later he took entire charge himself. With his first \$100, Mr. Swift went to Los Angeles, Cal., where he spent the winter of 1885-86. He traveled extensively,

visiting twenty States and Territories before his marriage, February 8, 1893, to Miss Kate Degman, born near Minonk, Woodford County, Ill., daughter of Michael Degman, who died when she was but three years of age. Mr. Swift lived all his life on the farm he now owns in Long Point Township, and in 1898, purchased forty acres in Section 29, which, in February 1901, he traded for eighty acres of the old homestead, paying some money in addition. He also owns 120 acres of finely cultivated land in Emmet County, Iowa. He is a practical farmer and stock-raiser and a great lover of fine horses, breeding Norman and French Draft Registered animals. He has been identified with the growth and development of this section for forty-four years, and his ability has been recognized by his election to various township offices on the Republican ticket. For ten years he has been School Director, served four years as Deputy Sheriff, nine years as Constable, six years as Assessor, one year as Collector and three years as Road Commissioner. He has shown himself a conscientious and able public official, and to him must be given much credit for the part he has taken in making Livingston County what it is. Socially, he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America of Long Point, and Mrs. Swift belongs to the Royal Neighbors. They have two children: Howard H., born October 24, 1894, and Harold M., born June 5, 1900.

SWING, Joseph G.—That concentration, good judgment, faithfulness, cheerfulness and integrity constitute the most forceful equipment of men who compose the distributive or mercantile element of business, finds confirmation in the career of Joseph G. Swing, a variously interested resident of Fairbury since 1891, and since June 18, 1907, a purveyor of groceries, hardware, stoves, paints and oils, buggies and farm-implements in that region. Good birth and breeding, practical educational and general advantages, and that incentive to purity of character and lofty ideals which come of valued memories of one's nearest of kin, who bespeak for this popular business man a career of exceptional success and trustworthiness. Mr. Swing spent the early years of his life in Akron, Ohio, where he was born August 10, 1861, and where his father, Carl Swing, was engaged in the tailoring business.

Carl Swing was born at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Germany, and amid scenes familiar to the great Goethe, passed from boyhood to manhood, equipping himself in the meantime in the art of ladies' high class tailoring. From the first dawn of seriousness his nature was profoundly religious, and this inclination grew in after years to potential proportions. Realizing that the United States offered larger opportunities than existed in his native land, he came here while still a young man, and after locating in Akron, Ohio, married Salina Bollinger, a native of Schaffhausen, Switzerland. In 1877 he brought his family to Livingston County, Ill., locating on a farm south of Chatsworth, where his death oc-

curred August 10, 1880, while at the zenith of his powers. The untimely passing of Mr. Swing was the more to be regretted, as he had just become located in the midst of the most favorable of agricultural surroundings, and it seemed that many more years of happiness and usefulness remained to him. His tailoring or farming operations were really secondary avenues of activity, for his mind and heart dwelt constantly upon the moral condition of the race, and for many years he sought its uplift as a preacher in the German Christian or Amish church. The self-sacrificing and impersonal labor of Amish clergy appeals to men of high moral caliber and unselfish character, as they receive no stipulated compensation, working solely for the cause in which their sympathies are enlisted. Mr. Swing was an exception even among these consecrated men, and his devotion and faithfulness won him the confidence and gratitude of many outside of his own denomination. He had a hearty, cheerful and inspiring nature, and one received moral courage from his handshake and cheery greeting. In his wake there arose better community feeling, greater honesty, nobler aspirations and cleaner, saner living, and of him it may be truthfully said that he left the world the better for his having so-journed in it.

The wife whose aims and sympathies were so closely knit to those of Mr. Swing survived him until February 9, 1900. To them were born five sons, of whom John, the oldest died at the age of twenty-nine years; Charles died in infancy; Henry is a farmer near Remington, Ind., and as were his parents, is a member of the Amish church; Albert also is a farmer in Wolcott, Ind.; and Joseph G. is the merchant of Fairbury.

Joseph Swing was educated in the public schools of Akron, Ohio, and was sixteen years old when his parents removed to Livingston County. He continued to live on the farm with his mother until 1882, and that year they located near Fairbury, where Mr. Swing operated a farm for about five years. February 23, 1885, he was united in marriage to Annie Schippe, a native of Zurich, Switzerland, and of the union there were two children, Walter and Annie, the former of whom was born in February, 1887, and the latter June 12, 1888. The death of Mrs. Swing occurred June 16, 1888, four days after the birth of her youngest child. After coming to Fairbury in 1891, Mr. Swing worked for a short time in the Walton Brothers' elevator, then engaged as clerk in the hardware store of Frank Hobbs, with whom he remained about six months. Until that firm sold out he was connected with the business of Swing & Steidinger as a partner, and for the following four years clerked for different hardware stores, in 1895 starting a hardware business of his own, which he subsequently disposed of. He then engaged in the drug business until June 18, 1907, when was established his present mercantile concern. This store is a model of neatness and order, and in its management the soundest business principles prevail.

Misrepresentation is never allowed or resorted to, and fair priced goods, courteous treatment and unquestioned integrity are building up a business which must reap gratifying financial returns.

The second marriage of Mr. Swing occurred in February, 1888, to Eugenia Hoffmann, a native of Illinois and of French descent. Of this union there were four children: Joseph, a clerk in his father's store; Mary, Willie, and Jacob. Mrs. Swing passed away on June 12, 1900, and eventually Mr. Swing married his present wife, formerly Lydia Hoffmann, who is the mother of five children: Eugenia, Lizzie, Harvey, Christina and Philip. Mr. Swing inherits the religious convictions of his parents, and became a member of the Amish church at the age of nineteen years. He has since been an active worker in the church, and in his daily life reflects its principles and teachings. As is the custom with all members of this religious denomination, he does not vote, but his inclinations are with the Republican party. A genial and kindly nature contribute much to his influence among the complications of modern life, and the force bred of sincerity and definite purpose draws irresistibly the finest compensations of living.

SWORDS, John William, a man who has the sincere respect of all who know him as a successful and enterprising resident of Long Point, Ill., and foreman of Section 1 of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad between Ancona and Dana. He was born near Indianapolis, Ind., September 16, 1854, a son of John Swords. The mother died when John William Swords was a baby, and his father died in 1862 when the son was only eight years old. He was the only child by his father's second marriage. By his first marriage John Swords had four children: Mary the wife of Anderson Gagawry, with whom John William made his home for some years, but they now reside in Oklahoma; Emma the wife of Frank Moore resides in Los Angeles, Cal.; Luther lives at Dana and is foreman of another Section of the A. T. & S. F. Railroad; and Calvin is a gold mine inspector of Colorado.

After the death of his mother, the father married for the third time, but died in 1862, and after living with his sister for a time, John William went to live with his Uncle Joseph, with whom he remained two years. In 1868 he came to Peoria, Ill., with a man by the name of William Douglas. At Peoria the lad went to work in a coal mine, his work being the filling of the coal cars, and on account of his faithful service, he was promoted to the position of check weighman. From 1868 to 1873 he worked in the mine, but in the latter year engaged as a teamster, thus continuing for three years. In 1880 he left Peoria and came to Long Point where he obtained a teaming contract. On March 16, 1881, Mr. Swords married Elida Bennett, a native of Livingston County, and daughter of Peter Bennett, one of the pioneers of the county, who married Phoebe Martin of Ohio. He was born in Canada and died

in 1890, his widow surviving and still living at Long Point, aged seventy-five. Mrs. Swords has one sister, Leonore L. For a year after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Swords rented rooms of her parents, but in 1882 bought two lots on Main Street, Long Point, and there built a residence.

Mr. Swords followed farming and teaming until March 20, 1892, when he accepted a position on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, as foreman, on Section 1, out of Long Point, and later built one of the best dwellings in the village, an eight-room house, all fitted with modern appliances, and here they reside with their interesting family. They have had eight children: Byron Ross, born June 22, 1884, Station Inspector of the A. T. & S. F. Railroad, with headquarters at Topeka, Kan., he having begun work in the service of this road with his father and gradually climbed to his present position; Roy W., born May 13, 1890, a bright young man engaged in business; William, born September 20, 1892; Russel, born October 15, 1896. Lella Irene, born August 14, 1900; Lavon W., born January 15, 1904.

Mr. Swords is a self-made man, who with but little education and no money, has through his own efforts worked hard from boyhood up to his present responsible position, and gained the confidence of his neighbors and associates. He has amply provided for his large family, and owns one of the nicest homes in Long Point as well as twenty-one valuable town lots. The handsome shade and fruit trees in his yard were all planted by him before and after his day's work was over. For seventeen years he has been in the employ of the same company, which gives evidence of appreciation of his faithful service. Both Mr. and Mrs. Swords are members of the Christian Church, of which Mr. Swords is deacon, and they are very active in its good work. Mrs. Swords, who is a member of the choir, was born September 6, 1864, and is really a remarkable lady. Not only has she been a devoted wife and a careful and conscientious mother, but she has found time to engage in outside work, and is now Vice-President of the local W. C. T. U., and is joined with her husband in enthusiastic work in pushing the crusade that swept the State in 1908 and resulted in the closing of so many saloons. She is an eloquent speaker, possesses great executive ability and is a good organizer; is also prominent in the Ladies' Aid Society and is always to be depended upon in any emergency. Mr. Swords is a Prohibitionist in politics, fraternally is a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., M. W. A., and Royal Neighbors, and for seven years he has been an officer of the M. W. A., and under his able management the small camp has been expanded until it now has 100 members. Mrs. Swords takes an active interest in the Eastern Star, and both she and her husband are in entire sympathy in their good work, and each is proud of the other.

TAGGART, James H.—It is given to some men to spend a long life usefully, and to not only gain

a substantial material reward, but also to secure the respect and confidence of all with whom they are brought in contact. While there are those who profess not to care about the opinion of their neighbors, no right feeling man can afford to disregard it, and he prizes it to the highest extent when he has honestly won it. Among the reliable, sound and respected men of Livingston County, James H. Taggart of Wenona, Ill., deserves special mention.

Mr. Taggart was born in Belmont County, Ohio, September 9, 1839, a son of John Taggart and Nancy (Roberts) Taggart, the former born May 10, 1808, in Lancaster County, Pa., and the latter born in Toronto, Canada, October 10, 1812. Mrs. Taggart came to the United States in 1816 and settled in Belmont County, Ohio, to which Mr. Taggart had come in 1810. They were married March 16, 1828, at St. Clairsville, Ohio. By occupation the father was a farmer, and James H. Taggart was reared on the farm, working when not attending school during the nine months it was held. He had the advantages afforded by the common and high schools of his period. Eight children were born to his parents, namely: Joseph R., Catherine, Atwell M., James H., Mary J., Lydia A., Wilson S., and Agnes D.

In 1863 Mr. Taggart came to Illinois and until 1882 he was profitably engaged in farming and stock raising near Lacon, Ill., but in that year he retired from the farm to Long Point, Livingston County, to embark in a grain and live-stock and lumber business in that town. For the following thirteen years he was thus engaged, but in 1895 he removed to Wenona, Ill., where he founded the well known house of Taggart & Son, his son Harry being the junior member, and they now carry on a large grain business with marked success.

Mr. Taggart is a Democrat, but has never had either time or inclination for official life. For many years he has been a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and is one of its liberal supporters. While he has never left the United States, Mr. Taggart has traveled considerably in his own country, and is a very well informed man.

On December 15, 1863, Mr. Taggart married, at Bethesda, Belmont County, Ohio, Josephine L. Murdock, who was born at Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, October 31, 1844. He and his wife came to Illinois the same year, first settling in Lacon, Marshall County, where they remained five years, when they removed to Long Point, Livingston County. Mr. Taggart there engaged in the lumber and grain business in which he continued for thirteen years, when he sold his interest to his son-in-law, Oscar B. Wheeler, and removing to Wenona in the spring of 1898, retired from active business. (See sketch of Oscar B. Wheeler on another page.) Mr. and Mrs. Taggart have had the following family: Luella H., born November 4, 1864, at Lacon, Ill., is now the widow of T. C. Colehouer and a resident of Normal, Ill.; Maud R., born March 5, 1868, at Lacon, Ill., is wife of Oscar B. Wheeler, of Long

Point, Livingston County; Harry M., born May 31, 1870, at Wenona, Ill.; and Fred S., born August 30, 1872, at Magnolia, Ill.

Although in his seventieth year, Mr. Taggart is actively engaged in business and is one of the representative men of his community. During his long and prosperous career, he has succeeded because he has taken a deep interest in whatever he attempted and understood it thoroughly. He and his family have many friends throughout this part of the State, and their pleasant home at Wenona is often the scene of large gatherings, the hospitality of this household being well known and appreciated.

TAMBLING, Myron W., one of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers of Livingston County, Ill., as well as one of the leading citizens of his locality, resides in Round Grove Township, where he is the owner of 320 acres of very productive and well-improved land. Mr. Tambling is a son of Villeroy A. and Harriet (Morgan) Tambling, the father having been born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and the birthplace of the mother being in Connecticut. The maternal grandfather was a brother of Governor (and afterwards Senator) Morgan, of New York. Villeroy A. Tambling and Harriet Morgan were married in Ohio, whence they moved to Illinois, locating in Freedom Township, LaSalle County. For a while the father carried on farming there, and then took up his residence in Ottawa, Ill., where he followed the trade of a carpenter. Thence he went back to Ohio, where his wife died. Returning to Ottawa, Ill., he enlisted, in April, 1861, in the Eleventh Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three-months' service, and at the end of the term re-enlisted in the Fifty-third Illinois. Later, he was promoted to a captaincy and assigned to the command of a company of the Thirteenth Colored Infantry, continuing thus until February, 1866. He took part in the Siege of Vicksburg, the Nashville campaign, etc., and at the termination of the war resumed carpenter work at Ottawa, which he followed until 1870. In that year he moved to California, where he has since lived, except during a brief sojourn in Colorado.

In early youth Myron W. Tambling attended the district schools, and completed his studies in Grand Prairie Seminary. He was then employed as clerk in a general store, after which he applied himself to farming. In 1863 he moved to Livingston County, and in 1876 rented a farm of 160 acres in Round Grove Township. On this place he lived until 1902, having meanwhile bought 120 acres of land in 1895, which he also farmed. In 1901 he purchased 200 acres adjoining the latter on the north, and, in the following year, made his home there. On these two pieces of land he has put many improvements, including a house and barn.

On March 8, 1876, Mr. Tambling was united in marriage with Emma Elizabeth Snyder, who was born in Peru, LaSalle County, Ill., and is a daughter of Jesse and Hannah (Lininger) Snyder, natives of Pennsylvania. The father of

Mrs. Tambling was an auctioneer by occupation, who moved to Livingston County at an early period, and became well known. Eight children were the offspring of this union, as follows: Albertus M., who married Hattie Beaty; Jesse Allen, who married Clara A. Brown; Harriet Louise; Robert Roscoe; Myron Earl; Emily Alice; Villeroy G., and Lila B.

Politically, Mr. Tambling is an earnest and influential Republican, and has served six years as Supervisor, besides holding other township offices. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the Independent Order Odd Fellows, No. 513, of Dwight, Ill.; and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is one of the most prominent men in his township, and he and Mrs. Tambling are held in high regard by a large acquaintance.

TEACH, Jacob, Owego Township, Livingston County, Ill. The success which was achieved by the subject of this sketch was such as might have been predicted for one of his lineage and environment. Wherever the German has made his home in America he has been a living force for material prosperity and for educational, religious and political progress. Of such ancestry as is here suggested Mr. Teach made his way in the world by virtue of such inherent traits as have been referred to, and he was not less fortunate in the high esteem in which he is held by his associates who survive him than he was in the friendly regard which they bestowed upon him while he lived.

Jacob Teach was a native of Franklin County, Pa., and a son of Peter and Betsey Teach. He was born June 19, 1817, and for a time attended one of the old subscription schools then in vogue in his part of the country. He was reared in the faith of the United Brethren Church with which he was identified during his life. He began his active career as a laborer by the month and, in course of time, served an apprenticeship at the cooper's trade, in which he became expert. In 1853 he came to Fulton County, Ill., where he farmed upon rented land until 1867, when he removed to Owego Township, Livingston County, where he bought eighty acres of unimproved land at twelve dollars per acre. With characteristic energy, he set himself to the task of its improvement and as fast as circumstances and conditions would admit he developed into an enterprising and successful farmer and stock-raiser.

In November, 1841, Mr. Teach married Catharine Barnhart, who was a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jacob and Catharine (Ream) Barnhart. Of their children nine are living: John H. is a resident of Chicago; Amanda is Mrs. J. K. Dunn of Pontiac; Emeline is Mrs. George W. Dale of Edmond, Okla.; Eliza is Mrs. Henry Dunn of Fulton County, Ill.; Jacob and Oliver live in Chicago; Cornelia married William Van Camp and lives in Fulton County, Ill.; Adelia is Mrs. John A. Ripsch, of

Pontiac; Clara married John Leafort and lives in Pike County, Ill.

In politics, Mr. Leach was a Republican, patriotically alive to the interests of his county, State and country. As a business man he was successful perhaps beyond his ambition. He died on his farm in Owego Township June 8, 1888. For a time after his death his widow managed the place, meanwhile spent much of her time with her children, but in 1903 sold the farm and has since been a member of the household of her daughter in Pontiac.

THIEL, Peter, who has industriously and profitably followed farming in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., for more than thirty-five years, is a native of Germany, where he was born March 17, 1838. His father and mother, Peter and Mary (Magt) Thiel, also Germans by nativity, remained all of their lives in the fatherland, where Peter Thiel, Sr., followed farming for a livelihood. The subject of this sketch was brought up on the small farm cultivated by his parents, attending the public schools from the age of seven to fourteen years, as required by law, and on reaching manhood, commenced farming for himself. On emigrating to the United States he first located in Wisconsin, whence he afterwards moved to Marshall County, Ill., and thence, in the course of time, to Livingston County. He bought eighty acres of land in Pike Township in 1872, and has since increased his land holdings to 120 acres, all of which is well improved. On this place he has long continued to carry on general farming and the raising of stock. Besides the home property, he is the owner of 160 acres of land in Iowa.

On February 27, 1867, Mr. Thiel was joined in matrimony with Mary Heinrich, born in Bavaria, a daughter of Andrew and Eva (Kuntzel) Heinrich, natives of Germany. Ten children have been born to this union, as follows: Magdalena, Margaret, Rosa, John, Peter, Michael, Katharina, Simon, Anna and Mattie.

In politics, Mr. Thiel is a follower of the Democratic party, and in religion, he and his family are Catholics.

THOLE, Herman, M. D.—From the time of his arrival in Dwight, Ill., in October, 1865, until his lamented death, April 19, 1885, Dr. Herman Thole gave conscientious evidence of his ability as a physician and surgeon, and was highly honored because of his unremitting devotion to the health and sanitation of his adopted town. He represented the patience, painstaking and profound learning of German scientists, and he spoke the excellent German for which the kingdom of Hanover has ever been famous, where he was born January 14, 1831, and where he secured a practical common school education. Dr. Thole was a son of Gerhardt and Elizabeth Thole, and was about eleven years old when he accompanied his parents from Germany to New Orleans, in a sailing vessel, in 1842, thereafter reaching St. Louis by way of the river boats,

thence sailing up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Havana, and settling in Mason County, where the elder Thole engaged in farming for the balance of his life.

Quite early in life Herman Thole outgrew his environment on the farm in Mason County, and went to Pekin to learn the carpenter's trade. This also failed to satisfy his cravings for the higher things of life, and at the age of thirty-six years he entered the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, and after receiving his degree, practiced medicine and surgery in Highland Park for one year, then came to Dwight. He achieved success and acquired a competence, and on removing to Dwight met with an even larger measure of appreciation. November 10, 1853, Dr. Thole was united in marriage to Caroline Burger, who was born in Detroit, Mich., June 16, 1837, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Zanely) Burger, natives of Baden, Germany. The parents of Mrs. Thole died in Dwight, and of their three children, Elizabeth is the wife of Henry Lewis, of Long Beach, and Catherine is the widow of J. Baker, of Campaign, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Thole became the parents of the following children: Edward, a farmer in California; Frank A., engaged in the real estate business in Seattle, Wash.; May, wife of George Simmons, of Kankakee, Ill.; Nellie, wife of Harry Ball, of Valparaiso; Jennie, living with her mother; and Charles J., of Nevada.

Dr. Thole was a member of the German Evangelical Church at Dwight, of which he was class-leader, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and Trustee for many years. He was a Republican in politics, but never a seeker for office.

THOMAS, Henry M.—One of the most prominent citizens of Union Township, Livingston County, Ill., as also one of its leading farmers, is Henry M. Thomas, who was born in Montgomery County, Pa., July 9, 1845. He is a son of Lewis R. and Mary Ann (Jones) Thomas, natives of the Keystone State. Lewis R. Thomas was a blacksmith by occupation. His marriage with Mary Ann Jones took place in Pennsylvania, and in 1856 he and his wife moved to Plano, Ill., and followed his trade in Kendall County until 1862. In that year he came to Union Township, Livingston County, and was engaged in farming for some years, after which he moved to Odell, Ill., and worked awhile at blacksmithing. Following this, he went to Nebraska, and after twenty-one years spent in that region, returned to Odell, dying there April 26, 1904. His wife died June 21, 1860. They had a family of nine children, of whom five are living. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically, Lewis R. Thomas was a Democrat.

Henry M. Thomas obtained his education in the Kendall and Livingston County district schools, and grew to maturity on his father's farm. On attaining his majority he worked by the month, and afterwards followed farming on rented land until 1892, when he bought 160 acres

of land in Union Township, which he had previously rented for twenty-one years. On account of the feeble condition of his father-in-law, Mr. Thomas lives on the latter's farm, renting his own out.

On March 29, 1877, Mr. Thomas was married to Margaret Ross, a daughter of Matthew and Nancy (Kyle) Ross, both of whom were born near Belfast, Ireland. Both parents came to the United States in 1851, later met in New York and were married at Ottawa, Ill., in 1856. Mrs. Ross died September 1, 1905. Their family consisted of six children, four of whom are living. On arriving in this country, Mrs. Thomas' father spent the first six months in Baltimore, then removed to Livingston County, N. Y., and in the spring of 1868, came to Livingston County, Ill., buying 160 acres of land in Union Township. Politically he is a Republican, and is a member of the Congregational Church, as also was his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have had two children, namely: George H., a student in the Odell High School, and John R.

In politics, Mr. Thomas is an active and influential Democrat. He has held every township office except that of Justice of the Peace and Town Clerk, and is now serving his third term as Supervisor. Fraternally, he is identified with the I. O. O. F. He belongs to the Presbyterian Church, his wife being connected with the Congregational denomination. They maintain a very high standing in the community.

THOMPSON, John, a well known and prosperous live-stock and grain dealer of Dwight, Ill., and a very prominent man in his locality, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, February 26, 1834, a son of Robert and Leathy (Cross) Thompson, natives of Ohio and Maryland, respectively. The maternal grandparents were of Scotch nativity, and came to this country about the beginning of the nineteenth century, settling in Maryland. Leathy Cross was taken from Maryland to Ohio by her parents at an early period, and in course of time was there married to Robert Thompson, who was a farmer by occupation. In October, 1854, they moved to Livingston County, Ill., locating in Nevada Township, on a farm of 400 acres which Robert Thompson had previously bought. On this he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. The father took an active part in the work of draining the land during his early experience in farming, was one of the leading farmers of the county and quite prominent in local affairs. In politics, he was a strong Democrat and held the office of Supervisor for a number of years. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. Their family was composed of thirteen children, of whom five are still living.

John Thompson was brought up on the home farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools of Ohio. On reaching years of maturity, he followed farming for a while on a portion of his father's land which he rented. In 1863 he went into the grain and live-stock

business, in which he has since continued. For nine years he was associated with E. R. Stephens and Hugh Thompson in the ownership and operation of a warehouse at Dwight, Livingston County. Success has attended him in all his undertakings, and financially he is a man of substantial resources.

Mr. Thompson was married in Ohio, January 17, 1856, to Esther Boyd, who was born in that State, a daughter of William and Margaret Boyd, old settlers there. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became the parents of seven children, as follows: Florence E.; Emma, deceased; James S.; John C.; Robert William, and two others whose names have not been furnished with the data for this sketch.

Politically, Mr. Thompson is a Democrat, and has wielded a strong influence in the local councils of his party. For four years he held the office of Assessor of Nevada Township and served as Justice of the Peace three terms. He was elected Police Magistrate in 1902, and again in 1907, and is still the incumbent in that position; also filled the office of Township Supervisor six years. In 1876, he was the Democratic candidate for Sheriff of Livingston County, but met defeat by 146 votes. He took an active part in the organization of the I. O. O. F., but in late years has not maintained this connection. Mr. Thompson has many friends, who have long been familiar with his meritorious qualities, and regard him with cordial good will and unreserved confidence.

TOMBAUGH, Charles Reno.—The cashier of the National Bank of Pontiac, is a descendant of a colonial family of Pennsylvania and is himself a native of that State, born in Washington County, October 1, 1862, his parents, Matthias and Elvira Jane (Letherman) Tombaugh, also being natives of the same county. Many years ago the family removed to Illinois and Matthias, who had served as Superintendent of the Schools of Monongahela, Pa., Odell, Ill., and other places, afterward filled the office of Superintendent of Schools of Livingston County from 1873 until 1882. Besides being an educator of ability, he carried on general farming until his death, which occurred May 13, 1887, at the age of fifty-one years.

After having completed the studies of the schools of Odell, Livingston County, Charles Reno Tombaugh had the further advantage of a course of study in the Northwestern University. At the age of fifteen years he began teaching and, in time, was promoted to be Principal of the schools of Odell, where his mother yet resides. Leaving that schoolroom in 1889, he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1894, when he was elected Superintendent of Schools for Livingston County, in which capacity he rendered intelligent and satisfactory service until the fall of 1901. Since leaving the office he has been cashier of the National Bank of Pontiac, to which responsible position he brings a mind stored with knowledge, a conservative judg-

ment, tireless energy and sagacious tact, qualities that admirably adapt him for his responsibilities.

The marriage of Professor Tombaugh took place January 20, 1892, uniting him with Mrs. Anna (Deach) Bradrick, widow of Charles K. Bradrick and daughter of Rev. Samuel Deach, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal denomination. Mr. Deach was a native of Pennsylvania and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Pound, was born in New York State. By her first marriage Mrs. Tombaugh has one daughter, Margaret L., who was born in Kansas, September 21, 1888, and is a student of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois. Of her second marriage there are four children, namely: Alice V., born January 20, 1894; Glen D., January 20, 1896; Stella M., February 7, 1898; and Reid R., June 29, 1902.

Fraternally Mr. Tombaugh early became identified with the lodge and chapter in Masonry, and never has ceased to maintain a warm interest in the order. In politics he votes the Republican ticket, and it was on that ticket he received the election as County Superintendent of Schools. For one term he has served as a member of the Board of Education of the Pontiac Township High School. Since 1904 he has been a director of the Young Men's Christian Association. From youth he has been an enthusiastic worker in the Methodist Episcopal church. For some years he has served as recording steward in the Pontiac congregation. While living at Odell he officiated as President of the Epworth League and held the same office after coming to Pontiac, besides which he has been Sunday-school Superintendent, also an active worker in the Sunday-School Association of Livingston County, being now and for some years past the President of the County Sunday-school Association. Other offices of trust and honor have come to him in connection with church work, and in every instance his ability and high principles of honor have been of valuable service to the cause.

TOWNE, Zera.—Probably none of the pioneers of Livingston County now surviving are better able to give an intelligent account of the early history of this part of the State than Zera Towne, who at the age of seventy-eight years, is in full possession of all his faculties and is able to give off-hand data that might well puzzle a man half his age to recall. Mr. Towne was borne in Essex County, N. Y., in sight of the old Crown Point Fort, July 15, 1831, a son of Silas and Ruth (Turner) Towne, and grandson of Joseph Towne, a native of Massachusetts and great-grandson of a native of New Hampshire who came of English stock. Joseph Towne took part in the Revolutionary War, and he later moved to New York where he married, about 1823. Joseph and his wife had nine children, namely: Seth, born in 1825, died about 1902; Warren, born in December, 1828, died in Texas of cancer; Zera; Alonzo, born in 1840, the year William Henry Harrison was elected President; Nora, a resident of Maryland; Sarah J., born

in 1842, married Royman Dolph, and both are deceased; Henry, born in 1844, lives retired on the homestead, in New York State; Lorane, born May 18, 1846, yet resides on the old homestead; Laura, born in 1848 and is now deceased.

When Zera Towne was a lad the schools were called subscription schools, and each parent paid so much cash, pork, grain or wood, and boarded the teacher a certain portion of the time, according to the number of children sent to school. Zera had his share of such schooling and worked on the farm in the summer until he was twenty-two, when he began learning the carpenter's trade in the summer and during the winter working in a lumber camp. The logs felled were drawn on huge sleds to the Hudson River and floated down after the spring rains. He followed this kind of employment until 1856, when with an uncle, John Turner, who had gone out to Illinois in 1849, he came to Pleasant Ridge Township, Livingston County, and bought land, at that time the county not having been divided into townships. He returned to New York, but soon was back in Illinois with his brother Warren and a cousin, Augustus Turner. They went to Pontiac, hoping to find some carpenter work to do, but all they had to occupy their time for some months was the erection of a small schoolhouse, which was put up on his uncle's farm. Later they were engaged to erect a house near Fairbury for John Adkins. About this time there was much excitement over the railroad, the track of which had been graded and work of laying the rails begun, when an injunction was issued, but before it could be served the work was completed. The Towne brothers now built the second house in Fairbury next to the present location of the Christian Science Church. With Hugh Stephenson and Edward Quigg they built the first structure in Fairbury in which liquor was sold, on the corner south of the residence of W. H. Bartlett. The first Postmaster of Fairbury was Henry McKee and the first station agent J. W. Wooster from Massachusetts. The first blacksmith shop was run by Mike Gately and Mike Mason, while the first drug store was conducted by John Blackburn. John Trueman was the first harness maker in the town, while the first dry-goods store was started in 1859. Zera Towne and his brother remained in Fairbury and assisted in building the town until 1876, when they removed to the property of eighty acres they had purchased in Pleasant Ridge Township. They had also bought forty acres in Avoca Township. Warren Towne was drafted into the army in 1864 and served about a year, returning home in 1865. Later the brothers sold their farms and went to McLellan County, Texas, where they farmed and worked at their trade. There Warren remained and died, but Zera Towne returned to Illinois in 1877 and bought 147 acres of land in Pleasant Ridge Township and lived upon it until 1907, when he sold it and moved to the farm which he now occupies.

On August 31, 1856, Mr. Towne married Nancy A. Lowland, born in Lafayette, Ind., who was

brought to Pleasant Ridge Township in 1844. She has one brother and one sister still living. George Lowland, of South Dakota, and Susan, the widow of John Masters. Mr. and Mrs. Towne have had two sons: Lorane, born February 9, 1860, married a Miss Blake and had two children, one of whom died in infancy and the other, Hattie, now lives with her grandparents, her mother having died in December, 1899; Nathan, born August 18, 1864, married Emma Newlander and they have four children—Jessie, George, Seth and Hazel. He is a farmer on the old farm of Jack Bodley in Avoca Township. In politics, Mr. Towne is a Republican and has always supported the candidates and principles of his party. Mrs. Towne is a member of the Methodist Church and a popular and influential lady in her circle of acquaintance.

TRAVIS, Jeremiah M. (deceased).—The late Jeremiah M. Travis was a prominent and highly respected farmer of Livingston County, and he built up for himself a lasting record as a man possessing most excellent personal traits of character. Upright and honorable in his business transactions, and imbued with that generous public spirit that made him always ready to assist in whatever was calculated to promote the welfare of his county and community, he was greatly missed when death claimed him. Mr. Travis was born in Middle Tennessee, August 24, 1823, a son of Jeremiah and Margaret (Peak) Travis, both natives of Virginia, who came to Illinois, in 1834, locating in Belle Prairie Township, as it is now known, entering 245 acres of land from the Government.

The younger Jeremiah Travis was married in 1847 to Miss Eunice Moore, who was born in 1826, and they became the parents of children as follows: Mary M., who died at the age of four years; Jonathan, died at the age of nineteen; Mary M. (2nd); Jonathan Nichols, born March 1, 1847, married Miss Eliza D. Ford, died November 18, 1903, and his former wife now resides at Fairbury, being the widow of J. R. Maxwell; Mary is the widow of Mark Widowfield, and lives on a farm in Belle Prairie Township; Richard M., born January 29, 1861, died in November, 1891; Jeremiah N., born October 13, 1852, died in November, 1893; Mary M., born April 23, 1855; Joan, born in March, 1857, deceased, married Robert Widowfield, and died about April, 1883, her husband being now a resident of Russell County, Kan.; Malinda J., born December 4, 1863, married John Masterson, and died in December, 1886.

With his marriage Jeremiah M. Travis began his career as a farmer and business man under difficulties which do not come to the farmer of today. He had to drive his hogs to Chicago, the trip taking eighteen days each way, and he had to go through slush and mud almost boot deep, and at times he had to cut brush and lay down for his hogs to pass over. At night some more brush and his blankets made a good bed for this hardy old pioneer who slept soundly under the

sky. When he reached his destination, the hogs were slaughtered and, after hanging twenty-four hours, were weighed and he was paid \$1.50 per hundred weight. At times he drove cattle and hauled wheat and oats, selling wheat for fifty cents per bushel, peddling it about the streets to find a customer. He was always progressive and when the farmers began to use tile he established a tile factory, in 1882 operating it with great success, his product being in great demand. His stock was recognized to be always of high grade and found a ready market.

After losing his wife April 20, 1902, he lost interest in life and passed away peacefully October 20, 1903. Like his wife he was a consistent member of the Christian Church. In his latter days, Mr. Travis was a strong advocate of temperance and voted for Prohibition candidates; for he had seen too many of the evils of intemperance to countenance it in any way. Commencing in very humble circumstances, Mr. Travis steadily and rapidly advanced in prosperity through his own untiring efforts, never shirking any task no matter how difficult, and he and his wife had the satisfaction of living to see their fine family of children grown to maturity and happily settled in life, surrounded by the churches and schools which are the necessary adjuncts of refined civilization. What Illinois is today these sturdy old pioneers made it and their glorious work will never be forgotten. Year by year their number grows less, until nothing now remains of the gallant band who braved the terrors of the wilderness but the work they accomplished, the grandest monument that can be erected to anyone.

TRAVIS, Lee L., whose beautiful home and substantial barn are landmarks throughout Belle Prairie Township, and whose success in his chosen work is the result of thrift, energy and hard work, was born on the farm which is now his home, August 3, 1866, a son of Jeremiah M. and Eunice (Moore) Travis, both natives of Tennessee, who came with their parents to Livingston County and here married. Like many other farmer boys he worked on the farm in summer and attended school in winter, and did a man's work from early boyhood. When he was twenty-one he was married, March 1, 1887, to Miss Emma Hanks, born September 3, 1868, in Indian Grove Township, a daughter of George and Mary (Enoch) Hanks. Mr. and Mrs. Hanks were married in McLean County, and he died when Mrs. Travis was but three years old. In 1871. Mrs. Hanks now resides in Fairbury. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hanks: Eva, who married Edward O. Crouch of Fairbury; Lucy, widow of Frank Foreman of Fairbury; and Frank, of Lexington, Ill.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Travis began farming in Belle Prairie Township on a small tract which was part of the original homestead, and in 1891 they took charge of the entire farm, the father retiring. Mr. Travis continued in charge until his father's death, in 1902, when

he bought the interests of the other heirs, and now owns the original home farm containing 215 acres, all of which he has placed under good cultivation. In 1902 he began extensive improvements, erecting his present splendid barn which is amply sufficient to protect his stock. In 1905 he moved the old house west of the present site and built a beautiful residence of eight rooms, two-stories in height with all modern improvements. The house is surrounded by fine shade and ornamental trees and shrubs, and the grounds are kept up in excellent style. In 1898 he began breeding the Ohio Improved Chester hogs, getting the stock from Ohio, and his herd is known as the Belle Prairie herd O. I. C. hogs. This herd has passed the experimental stage in this county and become one of the leading breeds. He has now at the head of the herd B. C. Livingston and Snow Ball. He was one of the first to introduce this breed into the county and is very well satisfied with the results. Mr. Travis has about forty-five head of the O. I. C. hogs, and has decided to begin breeding Hampshire-town sheep, starting with five ewes imported from England in 1906 at the age of one year, their average weight now being 204 pounds. He now has nine in the flock. He has been one of the leading stockmen of the township for a good many years, and since 1906 has devoted himself to breeding high class stock, believing in that kind only. For forty-two years he has been identified with the growth and development of Livingston County. The original deed of Mr. Travis' property was made on sheepskin, and the only change made was when the heirs transferred their interests to him. In all of the great changes that have taken place in the township since 1867, Mr. Travis has borne his part. For a number of years he has been a member of the School Board of District No. 123, and in politics is a Prohibitionist, taking an active part in the Temperance movement in 1908, and having been a strong advocate of the temperance cause for a long time. He and his family are consistent members of the Christian Church, of which he is a deacon. By leading an upright, honorable life, and thoroughly acting the part of a good citizen, he has won confidence and respect in the highest degree, and is a worthy representative of one of the old pioneer families of Livingston County.

TRAVIS, William M.—Among the oldest settlers of Livingston County yet living, and one who has been very prominent in the great work of developing and improving this portion of the State, is William M. Travis, who was born within a quarter of a mile of his present home on Section 5, Belle Prairie Township, November 14, 1839. His parents were John H. and Sarah A. (Spence) Travis, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky. He was born near Cooksville, Tenn., September 17, 1815, a son of Jeremiah Travis. Sarah A. Travis was born near Richmond, Ky. John H. Travis came with his parents from Tennessee to Illinois in 1834 and entered land from

the Government in Livingston County. Upon this land the primitive log cabins of the pioneer were erected and here Jeremiah Travis died, about 1868 or 1869.

John H. Travis was about seventeen at the time of the family exodus, and about three years later, August 6, 1837, he married Sarah A. Spence and settled on the edge of the timber in what is now Indian Grove Township, so called because of the settlement of Indians at this point. They were still very plentiful at this early date. The following family was born to Mr. and Mrs. John H. Travis: William H.; Louisa, married William M. Brooks a resident of Fairbury; J. J., died in Harper, Kan.; John M., born in 1846, is a resident of Fort Scott, Kan.; Elvira, married Jasper Hieronymus a farmer of Belle Prairie Township; Emma, married David Landis, a resident of Pontiac; Nathan D., a resident of Hoopeston, Ill. John H. Travis died July 3, 1902, aged eighty-six years, nine months and three days, and his wife died January 16, 1885. They united with the Christian Church in 1866 and were always among its most active supporters. Mr. Travis settled in Livingston County three years prior to its organization, and no one suffered more than he from the hardships incident to pioneer life. The present generation knows nothing of the crude implements of those days. The words wooden moleback plow, reaphook and cradle, for cutting wheat, mean nothing to them; and yet it was with just such unwieldy tools that the founders of the Commonwealth of Illinois conquered the wilderness and brought forth the Illinois as we know it today. After the ground was cleared of the timber, plowed and harrowed in the crude fashion then prevailing, the grain sown by hand, cultivated with a hoe, and finally harvested and put into sacks, came the long task of marketing it. There were weary miles to be traveled, and when it was finally landed in a town big enough to buy it, fifty cents was the price it commanded, and this was often traded out for necessities, so that no money entered into the transaction. The pioneer mothers bore their part, too, and it was a hard one. They had absolutely no conveniences and very few of the necessities. The big, open fire-place gave most of the light, for candles even were a luxury in those days. They cooked, washed, ironed, scrubbed and baked, spun flax and wove the cloth from which they made clothing for the men as well as the women. They carded wool from the sheep, wove it into cloth and yarn. All the stockings were knit by them in their spare moments, although to those fortunate enough to live in these days it would seem they had no spare time whatever. They tended to the milk, made butter, cheese and other dainties from cream and milk. Their skillful hands cured the meats and made the sausages. During the spring and summer they hunted for the various herbs and wild greens to furnish the table and stock the medicine chest, and yet they never were too busy to do a kindness or nurse the sick and comfort the afflicted. At births and deaths

they were always to be found, cheerfully giving of themselves without thought of recompense other than that which comes from a like favor when needed or of a happy consciousness of a good deed well done. The home, crude log cabin though it might be, was always open to the traveler for as long as he cared to stay, and the best was at his service. True hospitality reigned in those days such as is not met today, and with all such a truly Christian good will that made all friends, kinfolks, especially if they came from Kentucky or Tennessee, for it was the pioneers from these two States that founded Livingston County.

In looking back over the sixty-nine years he has lived, Mr. William M. Travis can scarcely believe that so many changes have been effected. His education was secured in the subscription schools where each family paid a certain amount for every child. When but thirteen he was put to work in a brick yard that furnished brick for fire places, and he also farmed until the war broke out, when he enlisted in Company G, Sixty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for four months. However, he was taken sick in the Chicago camp, and was unable to go on the march to Vicksburg, and was honorably discharged and returned home July 2, 1861.

On July 4, 1864, he was married to Courtney Darnell, born in Indian Grove Township, April 6, 1846, a daughter of John and Keziah (Spence) Darnell, natives of North Carolina and Kentucky, respectively. They came to Livingston County, settling in Indian Grove, where they were married in March, 1831, and here Mrs. Travis was born. Mrs. Darnell had spun and woven the wedding garments of herself and husband. On April 23, 1865, Mr. Darnell left Illinois and went near to Oregon City, Oregon, where he died January 20, 1894, his wife passing away August 11, 1893. They crossed the plains with mules, and reached their destination October 23, 1865, having been six months on the road. Mr. Darnell was one of those good, genial, light-hearted men who had a kind word for everyone, and who always looked on the bright side of life. He was a welcome addition to any crowd whom he could always entertain with his stories. The Darnells had the following family: J. W. who was the first white child born in Indian Grove Township, February 25, 1833, and where he died October 19, 1884, aged fifty-one; John M., enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died in service March 10, 1863, at Gallatin, Tenn., and there is buried; Nathan O., born December 18, 1838, died June 21, 1898, married Nancy Moore in 1866, who still lives at Fairbury—was a man of strict integrity, filling many important positions; Nicholas H., born in Indian Grove Township, but in 1885 went to Oregon, where he now resides.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Travis settled on a farm in Belle Prairie Township, where they resided until 1886, when they removed to their present home on Section 5, same township. For some years they rented land, having begun

their married life with no capital aside from their love for each other and their trust in the future. Their first purchase was a seven-acre tract, and from then on their way was clear, and they added to their possessions until they now own 250 acres of land worth \$175 per acre. Their home is one of the most pleasant in the township, and they preserve that old hospitality so characteristic of their parents in the pioneer days.

The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Travis: Otis, born June 23, 1865, is in charge of the old farm; Charlie H., born June 19, 1868, married Hattie L. Baker and has one daughter, Ray; Minnie K., born November 2, 1872, married Charles Hargishiner, a farmer of Foosland, Champaign County, Ill.; Willie B., born July 19, 1883, on the farm at home; Lester E., born July 16, 1887, and is at home. These children have all been given an excellent education, are remarkably intelligent, and all doing well, living up to the high standards which their ancestors have established. The family of Travis has been connected with agricultural life, and it has nobly played its part in the development of the country. The family are all connected with the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Travis is a Democrat and he has filled all the offices of the township, having served as Supervisor for three years. Although loyal to his party, he is liberal and willing to let each man think for himself.

TURNER, Guy F., is not only prominently identified with the public interests of Livingston County, but has gained for himself an enduring reputation as a physician and surgeon. He was born on a farm in Reading Township, near Reading, Ill., September 15, 1876, a son of William E. and Nellie I. (Moon) Turner. William E. Turner was educated in Knox College, and his life was spent in agricultural pursuits, although he was closely associated with public matters. He was a stanch Republican in politics, and a great believer in the value of educational advantages, as was his wife who received her education in a ladies' institution at Jacksonville. William E. Turner died December 20, 1881, and in 1882 his widow removed with her two small sons to Wenona, Ill., where in 1883 she was married to Dr. O. J. Raub, of Cornell, Ill. During the following year the family removed to Abilene, Kan., where Dr. Raub became one of the leading dental practitioners, and where he still resides. Two children were born to the first marriage of Mrs. Raub: Guy F., and Harry A., the latter being a partner of Dr. Turner in his drug and general mercantile business, as well as Assistant Postmaster. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. Raub there have been born two children: Ward I., who died at the age of six years; and Stanley M., who lives in Abilene, Kan.

Dr. Turner received his preliminary education in the public schools and the high school of Abilene, Kan., graduating in 1894, in which year he went to Streator, Ill., and accepted a position

with the City National Bank. In 1895 he entered the Hospital Medical College, of Louisville, Ky., and in 1897 went to Bellevue Hospital Medical College, graduating therefrom with honors in 1899. That year he returned to his home and passed a rigid State Board Examination receiving a high grade certificate. On August 1, 1899, he went to Dana, Ill., where he commenced the practice of his profession, but in 1901 sold out his practice and located in Chenoa, Ill., where he formed a partnership with Dr. J. A. Anthony. In 1902 he went to Rutland, Ill., but in the following year chose Long Point as his permanent field, and here he has since continued. He is a general practitioner and has been very successful in his treatment of many complicated cases. He gives most careful attention to his patients, sparing himself in no way when life and health are at issue. Thus Dr. Turner has won the confidence and affection of the community and he enjoys as much practice as he can handle. He is a close student and has associated himself with the various medical associations of the county and State, taking advantage of every chance to learn new methods to conquer and control disease. In 1905, in partnership with his brother Harry, the Doctor embarked in a drug and general mercantile business, and he now compounds all of his own prescriptions. On October 14, 1905, Dr. Turner was appointed Postmaster of Long Point, in 1907 was elected to the head of the Village Board, an office which he has since filled to the satisfaction of all concerned. During his term of office many improvements have been made, and he is regarded as the most progressive man in local politics. Fraternally the Doctor is a Mason, belonging to the Blue Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter, and is also connected with the Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America, in all of which, by reason of his sterling character and general good-fellowship, he is a universal favorite.

On October 19, 1904, Dr. Turner was married to Miss Fanny Watts, daughter of G. A. Watts, one of the leading merchants of Dana, Ill., where Mrs. Turner was born and where her family has long been socially prominent.

TURNER, James, retired farmer, merchant and hotel manager, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. The successful career of the gentleman here mentioned illustrates the fact that, in the present period of rapid development and quick changes, a man may change his business from time to time not only without prejudice to his interest, but often with distinct gain as to his opportunities. The old saying that "the shoemaker should stick to his last," has been so many times discredited by actual experience that it is likely ere long to be forgotten. The idea of this age is that opportunity must be seen and grasped. Everywhere the old is giving place to the new. There is no absolute reason why a successful farmer should not be a successful merchant, nor any why a successful merchant should not be a successful hotel man. Mr. Turner has proved it.

James Turner was born in Wheeling, Va.,

(now W. Va.), August 2, 1834, a son of Robert and Nancy (Fugate) Turner. Robert Turner, a native of Leeds, England, settled in Ohio and married there. His wife, a native of Pennsylvania, had moved out into that State. By trade he was a woolen manufacturer. He worked for some years in a woolen mill at Steubenville, Ohio, and, in 1842, removed to Dayton, Ill. Before this, however, he had made a prospecting tour in the West, and had decided to settle at that point where he now resides, and put a woolen mill in operation which he managed successfully until his retirement from active business.

James and Nancy (Fugate) Turner had six children, three sons and three daughters. Their daughter Mary married William Loy, but is now deceased, her husband a resident of Kansas City, Mo. Their daughters, Sarah and Ann, live at Fairbury. Their son Robert lives at Fairbury, and Benjamin is deceased, as also are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Turner.

The son James, the immediate subject of this sketch, attended public schools near his boyhood home in Virginia (now West Virginia), and in 1842 came with his parents to Dayton, LaSalle County, Ill., where he finished his schooling and began his active life under his father's instructions in the woolen mill. He was variously employed until 1869, when he came to Livingston County and, in Fayette Township, bought 320 acres of raw prairie land at ten dollars an acre. Assisted by his brothers, he made many improvements on it. In 1878 he began dealing in clothing and general furnishings, and buying and shipping stock to Fairbury. In 1882 he sold out his interests there and removed to Pana, Ill., where he re-engaged in the same kinds of business. His brothers had been connected with him in these operations. In 1886 they closed out their enterprises at Pana and dissolved their partnership, when James Turner returned to Fairbury. The period between 1886 and 1888 he spent in Kansas. Coming back to Fairbury, where he was married in December of the latter year, to Miss Kittie Woods, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Smith) Woods, both natives of Pennsylvania. Eventually he assumed the management of the Fairbury House, a hotel and restaurant, which he conducted until 1903, when he retired from active business, after a series of successes in which he had acquired a considerable property, including 160 acres of land in Indiana and 200 acres in Missouri.

Mr. Turner began his political career as a Whig and naturally gravitated into the Republican party. He has always taken a helpful interest in public affairs. Mrs. Turner died April 15, 1907, and is remembered as a woman of the highest character. A biographical sketch of her brother, James Woods, is given on another page.

TURNER, John Wesley, a successful farmer, and a very worthy man whose farming operations cover 240 acres of land in Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born on his father's homestead place in the same township, January

24, 1865, a son of John Wesley and Lucinda Jane (Songer) Turner, natives of Indiana, where the birth of both occurred in Fountain County. John Wesley Turner, a farmer by occupation, made the journey to Livingston County, Ill., by ox-team and "prairie schooner" in 1852. His marriage took place in Indiana, and he left the State shortly after that event. At the outset he bought 160 acres of land in Sunbury Township, north of Mud Creek, and sold it about four years later, purchasing 200 acres of raw prairie in Esmen Township. He broke the sod, put the ground under cultivation, made all the necessary improvements, and spent the remainder of his life on the place, dying at the age of fifty-eight years his wife passing away in 1904. He was a hard worker and a well disposed man, discharging faithfully the duties of husband, father and citizen. Politically, he was identified with the Democratic party, but was not actuated by any motives of self-interest in connection with politics.

The subject of this biographical record received his education in the district schools of Esmen Township, and helped his father in the farm work until he was twenty-one years old. At that age he began renting the paternal farm and has followed farming there ever since, except during three years passed on another rented place. On the death of his father he inherited a small part of the estate, and bought out the interests of other heirs, so that sixty acres of the homestead property belong to him. In the spring of 1908 he bought of his brother sixty acres, so that he now owns 120 acres. Besides this, he rents other land, making 260 acres, in all, under his management. He keeps a good grade of horses and has prospered in all his undertakings.

On June 3, 1888, at the bride's home in Esmen Township, Mr. Turner was married to Isabel Rhodes, who was born in Troy, N. Y., May 22, 1867, and came to Illinois in 1879. Her father, John Rhodes, died when she was quite young. From the union of Mr. and Mrs. Turner have sprung six children, as follows: Zella, born November 30, 1889; John, born May 16, 189—; Delford, born August 20, 1896; Sylvia, born August 28, 1897; Elmer, born October 13, 1894; and Bertus, born March 22, 1901.

In politics, Mr. Turner is classed as a Democrat, but takes a somewhat independent course in local elections, and has never entertained any desire for public office. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

UNZIEEKER, Joseph, for fifty years a well known and successful farmer in the western portion of Livingston County, Ill. and now a resident of the village of Flanagan, same county, where he is now living in comfortable retirement, was born in the State of Ohio, on October 30, 1838. His father, Jacob Henry Unzieeker, a farmer by occupation, was born in Bavaria, Germany, and his mother, Barbara (Stalter) Unzieeker, in Alsace, Germany, (then French ter-

ritory). In 1855 the parents emigrated to the United States, locating in Butler County, Ohio, whence in 1845 they came to Illinois, and there spent their last days, the father dying in 1846 and the mother surviving him until 1889. The youthful years of Joseph Unzieeker were passed on the parental farm, and he received a common-school education in the district schools of Illinois. Since reaching manhood he has always followed farming. In March, 1865, he bought 160 acres of land in Pike Township, Livingston County, which he still owns, and is also the owner of 150 acres in Rook's Creek Township, in the same county, as well as four lots in the village of Flanagan, where he took up his residence in 1905.

On February 22, 1866, Mr. Unzieeker was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Barbara Streid, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Joseph and Francisca Streid, natives of Germany. To this union eight children were born, their names being as follows: Elizabeth, Katharina, Benn, Francisca, Joseph, Henrietta, Noah and Minnie. Benn and Noah are engaged in farming; Elizabeth is the widow of William Ewing; Joseph is in charge of the grain elevator at Graymont, Ill.; and Minnie is living at home. Katharina, Francisca and Henrietta are deceased. Benn lives in Blaine County, Okla.

The political connection of Joseph Unzieeker is with the Democratic party, and he and the members of his family are communicants of the Mennonite Church.

VAHLDIECK, William, owner of a fine farm of 200 acres in Esmen Township, Livingston County, Ill., and known in his locality as a very energetic and thorough farmer, was born in Peru, LaSalle County, Ill., May 29, 1856, a son of Christopher and Louisa (Briezenmeister) Vahldieck, both natives of Germany, the father born in the city of Berlin, in 1823, and the mother, in the Province of Hanover, in 1827. Christopher Vahldieck, who was a farmer, after finishing his education in the public schools of the fatherland, served ten years in the regular army there, and enjoyed the life of a soldier. In 1850 he was married, and soon afterwards came to the United States, locating in LaSalle County, Ill., where he first kept a place of public refreshment, and later, worked as a farm hand. In 1865 he began farming on rented land, and in the following year, bought eighty acres in Livingston County, to which, in course of time, he added eighty acres more. Towards the end of his life he withdrew from active work, but continued on the farm until his death, in 1890. His wife died in 1900. Their family consisted of three sons and five daughters. Of these, one son died in infancy, and one of the daughters was killed by a railroad train, near Peru, LaSalle County. Besides William, those living are as follows: Edward, whose home is in Emmet County, Iowa; Lizzie (Mrs. Nolan); Ida (Mrs. Wisman), and Emma (Mrs. Sackett), all

of Pontiac, Ill.; and Anna (Mrs. Fife), of Sunbury, Livingston County.

William Vahldieck, who was the second child in order of birth, received his education in the district schools, and while still a boy, learned the butcher's trade. When twenty-two years of age he began farming on rented land in Sunbury Township, continuing thus until his father's death, in 1890. In the year 1886 he bought forty acres of land in Esmen Township, and in 1890, eighty acres more. On this farm he has built a convenient and comfortable home, greatly improving the property in other respects. In 1903 he purchased another tract of eighty acres, making 200 acres in all.

Mr. Vahldieck was married, December 9, 1880, at Sunbury, Ill., to Katie Ryan, born in New York State, May 1, 1864. Mrs. Vahldieck was a daughter of James and Lizzie (Cleary) Ryan, natives of Ireland. Her father was a miner by occupation, and a veteran of the Civil War. Five children blessed this union, namely: Rosa E., born November 5, 1881, who married Fred Klein, a farmer; Bertram E., born November 19, 1882, who was a student at the Dixon (Ill.) Business College for one year; Grover E., born June 5, 1885, and now living in Dwight, Ill.; Oscar C., born January 23, 1887; and Victor V., born November 26, 1893. The mother of this family, a woman of most estimable traits of character, and a faithful and devoted wife and affectionate mother, passed away, deeply lamented, February 12, 1907.

Politically, Mr. Vahldieck is a strong Democrat, and has served the public as School Director and as Pathmaster. In fraternal circles he is identified with the M. W. A.

VAIL, Frank M.—Agriculture is a liberal profession, embracing a knowledge of earth and the products that grow out of it, and a philosophy of economics which comprehend the necessities of demand and supply by which these products are kept moving over the face of the earth. Facilities of transportation have done much to bridge over gaps between the urban and rural communities and make them one. Frank M. Vail, residing on Section 32, Indiana Grove Township, Livingston County, is one of the up-to-date farmers of this locality, being born on the section where he now resides, March 29, 1858, a son of John D. Vail and Antoinette B. (Fowler) Vail, both natives of Albany, N. Y., and descended from English and Puritan stock. The Vail family originated in America with the emigration of three brothers from England to the Colonies. They settled in New York, and from there their name spread throughout the country. John D. and Antoinette Vail were married in New York and about 1839 came to Livingston County, settling on the line between Sections 30 and 32, where John D. established a general store, having to haul his stock from Ottawa. The location of this place was just west of the home of Frank M. Vail, on property secured from the Government. John Vail became one of

the leading men of the county, and one of the largest landowners, possessing at one time 962 acres of choice land. For many years he was an extensive feeder and shipper of cattle and hogs, and was a lover of fine horses and owned a good stable. As he understood the handling of stock, his shipments brought the highest prices. Far in advance of his times he advocated many of the views now held by farmers and stockmen of today, and was ever ready to lend his advice and assistance to others. Mr. Vail was born March 18, 1816, while his wife, born June 20, 1817, died March 29, 1858. On April 5, 1859, he married Harriet N. McNulty, who was born in Ohio, May 20, 1830, and died in Chicago, March 18, 1905. Mr. Vail died November 17, 1904.

John D. Vail was always prominent in township and county affairs, and was a man who is remembered with deepest affection. He and his first wife had children as follows: Hannah M., born April 23, 1840, died December 12, 1840; Hubbard F., born January 13, 1842, married Adie Jones, who died leaving one daughter, Nellie, who resides in Lincoln, Neb.; Cornelius T., born May 26, 1844, died October 12, 1856. Akin D., born February 8, 1846, died November 19, 1868; Darius M., born December 3, 1849, married Mary Bradshaw, they reside in Kansas City, Mo., and have two children,—Harry and Maud; John D., Jr., born April 15, 1852, married April 24, 1879, Josie Pilgrim, and they reside in Chicago, having one daughter,—Grace; Charles, born March 15, 1856, died August 31, 1856; Frank M. and Nettie A., twins, born March 29, 1858 and Nettie A., died March 29, 1858.

By the second marriage there were children as follows: Charles W., born March 14, 1861, is Clerk of the Supreme Court in Chicago, married Clara Barton, and they have three children,—Winfield, Edna and Marjory; Hattie, born July 15, 1862, and died October 3, 1863; Ulysses G., born April 13, 1864, married Margaret Evans, and they now reside in Waveland, Ind.; Edwin E., born November 22, 1866, married December 24, 1901, Ella E. Anderson, and they reside in Crystal Lake, Ill., having one son,—Glenn; Cora L., born March 6, 1868, and died January 8, 1898.

Beginning in the public schools of Indian Grove Township, Frank M. Vail finished his education at Bryant & Stratton's Business College in Chicago, and in 1882 entered the Fair Store in Chicago, and there clerked for two years, when he returned to the farm and took charge of it. Afterwards he bought this property and now owns 403 acres, all in one body. He has one of the best improved and most valuable farms in the township, and for the past five years has been occupied in raising sheep, having a flock of 53, all registered stock. The sheep were imported by Bain & Towne direct from England.

Frank M. Vail was married December 31, 1881, in Chicago, to Miss Louisa H. Sievert, who was born in Chicago, February 16, 1865, a daughter of Frederick and Sophia (Dahl) Sievert. Her father died twenty-two years ago, but the mother still survives, residing in Chicago. The follow-

ing children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Vail: Antoinette Harriet, born January 26, 1883, is wife of Ray Haymond, a farmer of Arrowsmith, Ill., to whom she was married February 16, 1905; Oscar R., born July 3, 1886, now operates part of the old homestead; Frank M., Jr., born September 15, 1888, is at home; Stella May, born October 7, 1889; Lilly M., born March 14, 1892; Mabel Hazel, born March 30, 1894; Charles McKinley, born October 31, 1896; Vera and Vesta, twins, born November 10, 1899; Elmer E., born March 5, 1902.

Mr. Vail is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Weston, Ill., and the Fairbury Percheron Horse Company. He is a prominent Republican and for sixteen years has been Justice of the Peace and Clerk of the District School Board for twenty years, and Township Commissioner for three years. He is very enthusiastic in his belief in the principles of the Republican party and strong in his support of its candidates. Mr. and Mrs. Vail are not members of any particular denomination, but contribute to all. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Court of Honor, Modern Woodmen of America, and Yeomen of Fairbury. He has given his children an excellent education, and Frank M., Jr., attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill. Public-spirited in character, Mr. Vail can always be depended upon to give his full support to all measures calculated to be beneficial to the community at large.

VANCE, Joseph Smith, a well known and much respected farmer of Avoca Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a man who has taken an active and useful part in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his locality, was born in Rost-traver Township, Westmoreland County, Pa., on the forks of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Rivers, November 2, 1885. His parents were Robert and Sarah (Cunningham) Vance, natives of Pennsylvania, the father born in Westmoreland County, and the mother, whose ancestors were from Germany, in Fayette County. The great-grandfather on the paternal side was one of the first settlers west of the Allegheny Mountains. The Vance family is of Irish extraction. Robert Vance and Sarah Cunningham were married in Fayette County, Pa., whence, in 1859, they moved to Beaver County in the same State, buying land, and remaining there until the fall of 1868. Then they sold out, coming west to Decatur, Ill., and renting a farm. Subsequently, Robert Vance lived at Maroa, Macon County, Ill., until after the death of his wife, in 1899, when he located in Livingston County, dying at the home of the subject of this sketch. Besides the latter, he and his wife had four children, as follows: John, who died at the age of twenty-one years, a daughter, deceased in infancy; Maggie, wife of Wiley Gray, a retired farmer, of Lyons, Rice County, Kan.; and Belle, who married Eugene Michael, a farmer of Webster City, Iowa.

Joseph S. Vance was a young lad when his parents moved to Beaver County, Pa., and there he

received his education in the district schools. In the spring of 1883, he located near Maroa, Ill., and in 1889, selling his property there, moved to Livingston County, buying eighty-five acres of land in Section 19, Avoca Township. His farm is well improved, and he has a pleasant home provided with all the comforts of life. He has acquired this property solely through his own industry, energy and good management, having begun life for himself with little means and receiving no aid from others. His whole mature career has been devoted to farming and raising stock, giving special attention to breeding Poland-China hogs.

On November 30, 1882, Mr. Vance was married to Jane Kewn, who was born in England and came to the United States with her step-father, her mother, a half brother and sister, who settled in Pennsylvania, their home being in Lawrence County. She afterwards went to Maroa, Ill., living on the place of a cousin of Mr. Vance, where the latter made her acquaintance. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Vance consists of four children, namely: Carl, a farmer in Livingston County; George, Ray and Nellie, who are at home, all having received a good common school education.

In politics, Mr. Vance has always been an earnest Republican, taking a leading part in the local affairs of his party, and holding various township offices. For five years, he served as Road Commissioner, and now acts in the capacity of Assessor of Avoca Township, in which he has made a good record his assessments giving every one a square deal.

VAN EMAN, James L., who is successfully engaged in the dry-goods and men's furnishing business in Dwight, Ill., in partnership with Simon H. Sondergaard, was born in Grove City, Pa., May 21, 1864, a son of Nicholas Wiley and Elizabeth (Stevenson) Van Eman, Pennsylvanians by birth. Nicholas W. Van Eman was a highly reputable physician of the Keystone State, and practiced medicine in Grove City for the greater part of his mature life. At length he relinquished professional duties, and lived about three years in Virginia, where he died. He was a man of upright character and a skillful practitioner. Politically he was identified with the Democratic party, and in religion adhered to the faith of the Presbyterian church. He and his wife reared a family of five sons and three daughters. Aside from the subject of this sketch their names are as follows: Robert C., of Clark, Pa.; Margaret (Mrs. Dr. M. Palm), of Lansing, Michigan; William W., of Grove City, Pa.; James L.; Frank M.; Carrie (Mrs. E. W. Ellison), of Chester, Virginia; Samuel E., of Grove City, Pa.; and Anna (Mrs. Wm. A. Buckholt), of Charleroi, Pa. Frank M. is deceased, as is his wife. A daughter, Vera, survives, residing in Grand Valley, Pa.

James L. Van Eman received his education in the public schools of his native place, and in the Grove City College. In 1882-83 he graduated

from the Coleman and Palms Business College, Newark, N. J., and in 1884 located in Kewanee, Ill., where he was employed four years. Then he moved to Dwight and worked thirteen years in the large dry-goods and furnishing house of McWilliams & Smith, receiving a thorough training as a salesman. In 1902 he decided to enter into partnership with Mr. Sondergaard, in the same line, and on March 1st of that year, they opened their store. From the outset, their trade has constantly increased, and they are classed among the prominent merchants of Dwight. Mr. Van Eman is admirably adapted for this enterprise by reason of long practical experience and sound business qualifications.

On September 6, 1893, Mr. Van Eman was united in marriage at Kewanee, Ill., with Mary O. Brown, who was born in that place, March 2, 1859. Mrs. Van Eman is a daughter of Oliver W. and Elizabeth (Kent) Brown, the former deceased. Her father was a farmer by occupation. One child is the offspring of this union, Lucile, born February 6, 1895.

In politics, Mr. Van Eman maintains an independent attitude, although his views are largely in harmony with the policies of the Republican party. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church.

VAN VLEET, George M., who is the owner and manager of a good farm in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, Ill., is a native of Wisconsin, where he was born October 22, 1858. He is a son of Stephen and Abigail (Swope) Van Vleet, respectively, natives of New York and Pennsylvania. Stephen Van Vleet, who was a farmer by occupation, was of Dutch descent, and Abigail Swope was descended from a German family which settled in Pennsylvania at a very early period. After their marriage they spent several years in Ohio, and then moved to Wisconsin. In 1863 they went to Minnesota, remaining there a year. Next, they moved to Mendota, Ill., and thence, in 1868, to Grundy County. Their final move was to Nebraska, in 1882, and there the remainder of their lives was spent. At the time of his death, the father was the owner of 320 acres in that State. Their family consisted of ten children, eight of whom are living. The mother was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

George M. Van Vleet was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in the district schools. In 1883 he located in Livingston County, and eight years later went back to Grundy County where he bought a farm. Returning to Livingston County in 1901, he purchased 208 acres of land in Round Grove Township, on which he has made many improvements. Success has attended his labors, and he is recognized as a thorough farmer, as well as a useful member of the community.

Mr. Van Vleet was married, January 1, 1882, to Nancy Jane Snyder, a native of North Carolina, who was brought to Illinois by her parents when twelve years of age. Her father, Jacob

Snyder, moved to Kansas, where he died, her mother having preceded him to the grave a number of years. Eight children have resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Van Vleet, as follows: George N., is a contractor in Portland, Oregon; Florence, wife of James Tyler; Frank J., a student in the Illinois Wesleyan University, at Bloomington; Edgar, Ruth, Frances, Esther, who died in infancy; and Maurice.

Politically, Mr. Van Vleet is identified with the Republican party. In fraternal circles, he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. and the A. F. & A. M. and Knights of the Globe. He and his wife attend divine worship at the Methodist Episcopal church in the village of Reddick, near their home. Both have many friends, and are classed among the most worthy people in the township.

VAUGHAN, H. N., a musician by profession and, for a long succession of years, an orchestra leader and concert director of high repute in Livingston County, Ill., was born in Springfield, Sullivan County, N. H., May 8, 1833, a son of John and Mary (Moran) Vaughan, the father a native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the mother, of Fredericktown, New Brunswick. The parents moved to New Hampshire at an early period and there reared a family of ten children. In 1837 they came west, locating in Princeton, Bureau County, Ill., where John Vaughan died in 1878, his wife having passed away in April, 1856. The maiden name of his second wife was Eunice Pixley, of New York, whose home was at Danville in that State. For eight years after his arrival in Princeton he kept a hotel, which was known as a stage station. He was, however, a carpenter by trade, having begun as a ship carpenter, but the main occupation of his life was that of a contractor and builder. In religious faith he was a Baptist, and for many years officiated as a deacon in the Baptist Church, being very liberal in his contributions in furtherance of church work. In politics, he was a Republican from the time of the organization of that party.

H. N. Vaughan received his education at Princeton, Ill., finishing his studies in the Princeton High School, where James Smith was his preceptor; and he also took special lessons in music under a German teacher, named Ritter. Since reaching manhood Mr. Vaughan has been a professional musician, having been a leader of orchestras for many years, and still continues in this occupation. During the last ten years, he has had charge of the orchestra at the Pontiac Chautauqua, giving concerts daily. He has made his home in Pontiac since 1877, except during a period of about seven years spent in Seattle, Washington.

In 1880, Mr. Vaughan was united in marriage with Margaret Stites, born in Fayetteville, W. Va., and a daughter of Dr. J. J. Stites, of Pontiac. Mrs. Vaughan is a graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, under the instruction of Theodore Thomas. For a considerable period she has been engaged in teaching music, and is now Supervisor of Music in the public schools of

Pontiac, being an expert on the piano and violin. Mr. Vaughan has made his own way in the world, and has attained signal success in his endeavors. He owns a very pleasant and comfortable residence at No. 522 North Chicago Street, as well as property in Pontiac.

Politically, Mr. Vaughan is a Republican. He and his wife are highly esteemed by a wide circle of friends in Pontiac and throughout Livingston County. Mrs. Vaughan is a member of the Episcopal Church.

VIELEY, John Lawrence.—That men, now living, fought wild beasts of the wilderness and fled from the savage Indians, where the roar of traffic and the heavy clang of the iron wheels of mills and factories, driven by the dynamos, were never dreamed of, is marvelous indeed, and a history of this wonderful change should be interesting to the present generation so far removed from those stirring days. Among the sturdy pioneers yet living in Livingston County, John Lawrence Vieley, of Section 7, Pleasant Ridge Township, is one who has lived in the county since 1853, when he was brought here by his parents. He was born at Waukegan Lake, Ill., a son of Cornelius and Adeline (Larence) Vieley. The father was a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who married at Gainesville, N. Y. He was a farmer and stock-raiser who moved to Pennsylvania, but in 1823 came to Illinois and settled in what was then known as Littleport, now Waukegan. He remained there until 1853, when he located in Livingston County, when John L. Vieley was eleven years of age. The family settled on Section 7, Range 8, Pleasant Ridge Township, on land entered by Woodford McDowell, and sold by him to Cornelius Vieley for \$5.00 per acre. In all he purchased 240 acres, settled on it and developed a fine farm. He erected the first brick house in the county, as well as substantial barns and other buildings, and his was pointed out as a model farm. A portion of this land is included in the present farm of William Clark. Cornelius lived long enough to see his choice of a home justified, his death not occurring until 1872. His widow survived until 1881, when she too passed away. An old time Whig, Cornelius Vieley afterwards became a Democrat, and still later a Republican, taking a deep interest in educational matters, and all public improvements, being ever ready to give material assistance. In deep sympathy with the abolitionist movement, he helped many a fugitive slave to escape to Canada. No one ever appealed to him in vain, and his charities were many, although some of them were never known by any save the parties benefited. His home was ever open, and the stranger as well as the friend made welcome. It was the gathering place for the young people of the neighborhood, and the father and mother joined in the innocent merry-making.

Eleven children were born to Cornelius Vieley and wife, although but two are now living: John L. and Mary, widow of Joseph Clark, who was one of the prominent pioneers of Livingston County. Mrs. Clark now resides in Kansas. Two

of the remaining nine died in infancy; Maria died in Waukegan at the age of four years; Lucy married John Bishop, both of whom are now deceased, leaving a son, Lorenzo Bishop, a real estate dealer and loan agent of Waukegan; Minard died at the age of seventy on the old home in Pleasant Ridge, never having been married; James Henry died in 1894 at the old home; Julia Ann married John Reynolds; and Mary is Mrs. Clark, of Wichita, Kan.

John L. Vieley came to Livingston County when the whole section was little better than a wilderness. Pontiac was but a railway station; Avoca was a little trading point, and the farmer had to haul his wheat forty miles to a gristmill, while some went to Kankakee. His school district was No. 2, when he went to school, though, the subscription school had not yet been replaced by the public school system. His first school experience was gained in a log school house 12x14 feet. It was so small that it was packed with pupils, and a Mr. Lacon Armstrong was the teacher. Mr. Vieley early became accustomed to the duties of farm work, and remained at home until twenty-five years old, when he was married, November 6, 1867, to Miss Lucy Gravis, a native of Ohio, who was brought by her parents to Livingston County, and she is a daughter of James B. and Dorothy (Madison) Gravis, and a sister of Sheriff Schuyler Madison of Cook County, who hanged the anarchists engaged in the Haymarket riot in Chicago. Mr. James B. Gravis settled at Waukegan, where he became one of the prominent men of that locality. Mr. and Mrs. Vieley had children as follows: Mary Jane, married Joseph Murray, a farmer living near Wing, Livingston County; Bertha, at home; Grace, married George Overmeyer of Pontiac; Charles, on the home farm, married Ida Wilson; Belle, at home; John, also on the old farm; Helen, at home, is a teacher in the county schools and very successful; Emeline, died at the age of eight years; James died at the age of four.

For over half a century Mr. Vieley has been an active participant in the development of the county, and has seen many changes take place. Franklin Pierce was President when he located here; there was but one house between that of the Vieleys and the Iroquois River; Fairbury had not been thought of, and he saw the first train of cars that pulled into Pontiac, and well remembers the great excitement that event occasioned, the whole county turning out to witness it. There were then no lumber yards, and the lumber for the first barn, put up by his father, was hauled from Attica, Ind., a distance of eighty miles. The telephone and the automobile have brought into close connection distant places; the binder and steam thresher have supplanted the primitive machinery which was used in those early days. While bending a weary back over the flail, Mr. Vieley never imagined the day would come when the wheat would be winnowed entirely by machinery. His highly developed farm of 160 acres is a part of the old homestead, and he devotes it to farming and stock-raising, and

makes a specialty of Norman horses and Berkshire hogs. While he has held offices of public trust, Mr. Vieley has never aspired to political honors. In national matters he usually votes the Republican ticket, but in local affairs supports the man he deems best fitted for the office regardless of party lines.

In closing this sketch, no better ending can be found to enforce the idea of the changes that have taken place during the past half a century, and give a better conception of matters as they were in the early 'fifties, than to give this instance of the shifting of values. When Mr. Vieley, Sr., was moving his family from Lemont, Cook County, Illinois, to Waukegan, Lake County, he had an ox-team with which he was making the transfer, and was offered forty acres of land at the point where Polk and State Street is now located in Chicago for his team. He laughed at the idea, feeling he would get but poor pay for his cattle. This property is now worth many millions of dollars.

VINCENT, Charles A., grain dealer, Odell, Livingston County, Ill. The name of Vincent has been long well known throughout the United States, and men who have borne it have been prominent in nearly every walk of life. The representative of the family whose name appears above has won success as a business man and honor as a soldier and a man of affairs. His father, O. T. Vincent, of Grundy County, and later of Livingston County, Ill., was in his day a prominent and useful citizen and public official.

Charles A. Vincent, son of Israel F. and Hannah (Husted) Vincent, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., October 29, 1842, his parents also being natives of that county. In 1858, bringing their children they came to Grundy County, Ill., locating near Morris, where they lived until 1876, when the family removed to Livingston County, and there the elder Vincent came in time to own about 200 acres of land and to gain prominence in public affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent were active and influential members of the Congregational Church. The former died October 7, 1899, and the latter in September, 1892.

The immediate subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools at Morris, Ill., where he finished studies begun while living in his native State. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, in which he served until the close of the Civil War, participating in a few battles and many skirmishes. The command of which his regiment was a part, was attached to General Grant's escort after the siege of Vicksburg. In 1867 he settled near Odell and engaged in the grain business in which he has continued, being assisted at this time by his son. His enterprise has from the first been successful and has long been one of the most noteworthy of its kind in his vicinity. Mr. Vincent has gained high standing as a business man and is held in much favor by farmers of the surrounding country. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow and he and his family are members

of the Congregational Church. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.

October 15, 1869, Mr. Vincent married Isabella Grant, a native of Grundy County, where her parents, Calhoun and Margaret (Cameron) Grant, were early settlers. Her father was born in Scotland, her mother in New York, both now being deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Vincent have been born four children: Louis G., who helps his father in the management of his business, is a graduate of Dixon College; Fred C., who was educated at Lake Forest University, Leland Stanford University, and the University of Chicago, is now living in Kansas City; Harry F. is a graduate of Cornell University, and Charles Ray is a student at the same institution. Not only in the education of his own sons, but in his interest in the public schools of Odell and vicinity, has Mr. Vincent shown his interest on educational advancement. He is himself a well-read man of extensive and accurate information, and his father was always an active worker for the advancement of general education.

VON TOBEL, Jacob, retired lumber dealer, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. The native of Switzerland, wherever he may be found, is a lover of liberty. There may or may not have been a William Tell, but such a spirit as was his, if he ever lived, animates every Swiss that lives. The lover of liberty must be a lover of right and of justice. The lover of justice is necessarily a lover of honesty. The honest man must be a good citizen, and, if to honesty he adds enterprise and industry, he must be an admirable citizen. Such a citizen is Jacob Von Tobel, a native of Switzerland who has long been allied with leading interests at and around Fairbury.

Jacob Von Tobel was born at Zurich, Switzerland, March 26, 1839, a son of Henry and Susannah (Guth) Von Tobel, both of whom died in the land of their nativity. Of their children only Jacob and his sister Susannah, who is a member of his household, are living. As a boy, Mr. Von Tobel was educated in his native land. He then learned the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he worked there until 1868, when, bidding good-bye to home and friends, he sailed for America, and after effecting a landing, came directly to Fairbury and went to work in a little sash factory. Eventually he rented the building in which he had labored, in a modest way prospered and established in it a sash, door and blind factory. He soon began contracting and building, erecting or repairing many buildings of all kinds in Fairbury and vicinity. The fact is recalled that he remodeled the old Mitchell House at Fairbury, which, after its transformation, was renamed the Fairbury House. In a small way he began to deal in lumber, buying first by the load and eventually putting in a complete line of lumber and building materials, brick, sewer-pipe, etc., and adding a trade in hard coal to his other business. When he began business for himself, houses in and near Fairbury were small and comparatively inexpensive; but leading rather

than keeping pace with the advancement of his times, he built some of the largest and finest residences in his part of the county or furnished building materials for them. In 1900 he sold his lumber yard and retired from active life. He had been busy for so many years that at first he found it hard to do this, but in a measure he has become reconciled to the change, which he views philosophically as inevitable in his advancing age.

Mr. Von Tobel married Miss Catherine Keller, March 19, 1871. Miss Keller was born in Zurich, Switzerland, November 2, 1843, a daughter of Felix Keller, who died in his native land as the result of an accident. His daughter came to America in 1869 with her brother Jacob, who located in Fairbury, Ill. In 1873 he returned to Switzerland and brought the remainder of his family to Fairbury, his mother retaining a home with Mr. and Mrs. Von Tobel until her death in 1874. Of the ten children of her parents, Mrs. Von Tobel was the first born. She has borne her husband twelve children, eight of whom are living. Edward, born in Fairbury, April 29, 1873, is living unmarried at Las Vegas, Nev., where he conducts a lumber business. Lydia, born December 22, 1874, is the wife of J. N. Bach, a lumber dealer at Fairbury, and has five children. Paul, born December 16, 1879, is in the lumber business at Los Angeles, Cal. Annie L., born March 16, 1884, is now Mrs. Charles Kallister of Peoria, Ill. Besides the four who died in infancy, the list should include Alfred, Clara Catherine, Henry and Caroline. Of Mrs. Von Tobel's nine brothers and sisters, eight are living. Two returned to Switzerland and one of them died there in 1894.

Mr. Von Tobel is a leader in the Amish or Upper German Apostolic Christian church, with which he has been actively identified for forty years. This religious sect has three strong organizations in Livingston County, and each has its separate house of worship. One is located six and a half miles south-east of Fairbury, one four miles east of Fairbury, and the other three miles north of Fairbury. The combined membership of these three bodies is about five hundred, inclusive of communicants who worship at Fairbury, where a fine church was built in 1893. Originally the Upper German Apostolic Christians of this vicinity worshipped in a church which they bought of the Presbyterians.

WAGGONER, William L., contractor and builder, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. There is probably not in any community a more useful man than the enterprising, well equipped and conscientious contractor and builder. There certainly is none who beholds on all sides more monuments to his skill, industry and integrity. The trade of carpenter is eminently a respectable one, to say nothing of the one great carpenter who was, as well, the greatest man who ever lived, the list of men of note who, at one time or another, were carpenters would, if it could be fully compiled, be most surprising. It is not the intention of the writer to attempt such a task, but

rather briefly to record some of the notable achievements of a leading builder of Livingston County, together with some of the events of his useful and interesting career.

William L. Waggoner was born at Brownsville, Fayette County, Pa., December 22, 1855. His parents, William and Martha (Lynn) Waggoner, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and they had six children, three of whom are living. William Waggoner was a son of Josiah Waggoner, the latter born in Pennsylvania, his parents were natives of Germany, who settled at a comparatively early date in the Keystone State. David Waggoner, a brother of William Waggoner, came to Illinois and located at Lewistown, Fulton County, and was several times elected Sheriff of that county, where he was numbered among the most prominent pioneer citizens. Doctor Waggoner, Harry Waggoner (a lawyer) and Fred Waggoner of New York are his sons.

William Waggoner, father of William L. Waggoner, early learned the trade of butcher and followed it in Pennsylvania until the spring of 1875, when he came to Illinois and located in Knox County. After living there a year, he removed to Fairbury and rented land near that town, on which he farmed successfully until his death, which occurred in 1884. His good wife survived him until February 15, 1890. He was a man of much intelligence and enterprise, in every way worthy to be called a useful citizen. Of their children the immediate subject of this sketch was the first born; James Albert Waggoner died at Quincy, Ill., in 1887; Caleb Waggoner is a resident of Chicago; Mary Waggoner married Joseph Denarske of Fairbury. Their other children died in infancy. There should be no omission of the fact that William Waggoner fought for the preservation of the integrity of his country in the Civil War. He enlisted in Pennsylvania and was honorably discharged at the end of the struggle after a continuous service of three years and nine months.

The early life of William L. Waggoner was spent back in Pennsylvania, at Brownsville. There he was educated in the common schools. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, of which he had acquired a fair working knowledge when, in 1875, he accompanied his parents to Illinois. In the following year he came with them from Knox County to Fairbury, and during the ensuing four years he was kept busy assisting his father to get the latter's prairie farm under cultivation. In 1880, having married, he moved into Fairbury and, in 1881, again took up his carpenter's tools with which he kept busy continuously until 1895. Then, in company with Everett Chambers, he engaged in the grocery trade. Later Mr. Chambers retired from the enterprise while Mr. Waggoner continued its prosecution with sound judgment based upon principles of honesty and fair dealing that so commended it to public favor that it became a leading concern of its kind in the town. Mr. Waggoner had achieved undoubted success as a merchant, but he was by choice and by long

experience a mechanic, and his mind was not on the merchandise of household consumption but upon houses, business blocks and public-buildings. Disposing of his store, he formed a partnership with the late Gibson Brownson, for whom he had worked from 1881 till 1895, and again became a carpenter and builder, giving his attention especially to general contracting. Since then he has designed and built many of the finest dwellings and business blocks in the vicinity. It may be said of him that he is an all-around workman and an architect of no mean ability, capable not only of erecting but of planning structures of any class and of any materials. Excepting during the four years while he was merchandising, he has been for twenty-three years in his chosen work.

March 10, 1880, Mr. Waggoner married Miss Annie E. Chambers, of Pennsylvania, a daughter of Asa and Emma (Harris) Chambers, both of whom were born in that State. There her mother died and her father came in 1900 to Fairbury to make his home with his daughter and died in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner have two daughters named respectively Mabel and Irma. Mabel was graduated from Fairbury High School with the class of 1904, and Irma with the class of 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner and their daughters are attendants upon the services of the Presbyterian Church. The ladies have membership in that organization and he is one of its most liberal supporters. A staunch friend of education, he has always been helpfully interested in the local schools. Mr. Waggoner is a member of Livingston Lodge No. 290, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of Fairbury Encampment, No. 71, of that order, and he is a Past Grand of his lodge and a Past Chief Patriarch of his Encampment. He is identified also with the order of Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he is an active Republican. As a public-spirited citizen he has always been beneficially interested in the improvement and prosperity of the community. He was a member of the second Board of Aldermen elected after Fairbury adopted its municipal charter.

WAGNER, George A., a prosperous merchant of Ocoya, Livingston County, Ill., and one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Livingston County, was born in Germany, August 26, 1840, a son of Rev. Adam and Racena (Kaeler) Wagner, natives of that country, who came to the United States in 1848, settling in Woodford County, Ill., on twenty acres of woodland. To this the father added twenty acres more, and in 1858, sold the forty acres, moving to Tazewell County, Ill., and renting land on which he remained two years. At the end of that time he bought eighty acres in Kankakee County, Ill., where he died in November, 1905, at the age of eighty-four years. He was a minister of the Evangelical Association. His wife passed away July 17, 1907, aged ninety years, four months and fifteen days. They had eight children, of whom

six are living. Adam Wagner was a Republican in politics.

George A. Wagner attended the public schools of Germany about two years, and those of Woodford County, Ill., for six months, in all. He was reared on a farm, and on reaching maturity followed the occupation of threshing and corn-shelling for four years, starting in Tazewell County, for two years; also fifteen years in Kankakee County and balance of time in Livingston County. In 1877 he located in Eppards Point Township, Livingston County, and lived there on the farm until 1905, when he bought a store building at Ocoya, Ill., and has since dealt in general merchandise, being very successful. He is the owner of 280 acres of desirable farming land in Eppards Point and Pike Townships. He is Secretary and Director in the Eppards Point Fire Insurance Association, and also in the Eppards Point Telephone Company.

On February 28, 1864, Mr. Wagner was married to Emeline Bossett, by whom he had one child, Mary E., wife of Frederick W. Buess, of Kempton, Livingston County. Emeline (Bossett) Wagner died November 26, 1873. On September 15, 1874, Mr. Wagner married Susan E. Schickedanz, a daughter of George Schickedanz, a record of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. This union resulted in ten children, as follows: George Adam, Anna L., Catherine E., Amelia, Benjamin C., Nelson J., and Cora Nellie, (twins), Ada, Oma S., and Harlan A. who died in 1901 aged one year and six months.

In politics, Mr. Wagner is a Republican. While a resident of Kankakee County he served two years as Supervisor, and eight years as School Director. In Eppards Point Township, he was School Trustee nine years, and School Director for a considerable period. He served as Commissioner of the Eppards Point and Pike Townships Union Drainage District for some time. In Kankakee County, he also held the office of Justice of the Peace four years and, in Livingston County, has been Assessor ten years and Justice of the Peace twenty-seven years. For two years he has held the commission of a Notary Public. Since March, 1905, he has officiated as Postmaster at Ocoya. Fraternally, he is a member of Chenoa Lodge, No. 292, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of Chenoa Chapter No. 43, R. A. M.; Chenoa Council; St. Paul Commandery, No. 34, Knights Templar, and of the Order of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria.

He was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, for fifteen years. He affiliates with the United Evangelical church at Weston, Ill., while his family are members of the Baptist church.

WALDEN, Aaron, a successful merchant of Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., and also postmaster of the village and one of its most prominent citizens, was born in Bloomington, Ill., December 29, 1856, a son of Capt. Aaron Wesley Walden, a record of whose life, together with particulars in regard to the family history, may

be found elsewhere in this connection. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in McLean County, Ill., until he was thirteen years of age, and attended the common schools in the vicinity of his home, subsequently attending those of Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, where on reaching maturity he engaged in farming. From that locality he moved to Pontiac Township, continuing in the same occupation until he took up his residence in Pontiac, where he conducted a meat market for three years. On December 22, 1892, he changed his location to Flanagan, Ill., following the same business until 1895, when he bought out a hardware and implement concern in that place. In 1900 he moved to Graymont, Ill., where he has since been successfully engaged in the last mentioned line of trade. He owns an attractive residence, with eight acres of ground, near the village.

Mr. Walden was married, September 25, 1878, to Alice M. Glaze, born in Peoria County, Ill., on May 2, 1860, a daughter of Isaac K. and Minerva (Baggs) Glaze, natives of that county and now residents of Pierce, Neb. Mr. Glaze was born April 11, 1837, and the birth of his wife occurred February 6, 1839. The former was reared on a farm, and educated in the public schools of Peoria County. He went to Bureau County, where he bought a farm, which he sold and located in Livingston County in 1877. In 1882 he moved to Norfolk, Neb., and during the same year to Pierce, his present place of residence. He served about three years in the Civil War. Politically, he is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist church. They had seven children, of whom one son and three daughters are living.

Seven children resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Walden, as follows: Aaron Wesley, born April 23, 1880; Howard K., born October 14, 1883; Minerva May, born July 23, 1887; Mary Ellen, born March 30, 1890; Elmer, born October 19, 1892; Bertha Isabel, born March 25, 1895; and Alice Minnie, born November 10, 1903. The eldest son, Aaron W., followed farming until 1905, since which time he has been in partnership with his father in business. He married Mamie Carroll, of Amity Township, Livingston County. Howard K. Walden is Assistant Postmaster at Graymont. It is a singular coincidence that the paternal grandparents of both Mr. and Mrs. Walden had sixteen children.

Politically, Mr. Walden is a Republican and has held the office of Postmaster of Graymont since September 28, 1901. He has also served as School Director, and has officiated four years as Justice of the Peace. In fraternal circles he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias. Concerning religious matters he entertains liberal views, but lends a helping hand to all Christian denominations. His daughters, Minerva and Mary, are members of the Evangelical church.

WALDEN, Aaron Wesley, for a long period one of the most extensive farmers of Livingston County, Ill., but now living in restful retire-

ment, an honored veteran of the War for the Union and profoundly respected by all who know him, was born in Frankfort, Ky., September 6, 1821. He is a son of William and Sarah (Mitchell) Walden, natives of Virginia and Kentucky, respectively. The paternal grandfather, Aaron Walden, was an early settler of Kentucky, and John Mitchell, grandfather on the maternal side, also a pioneer in that region, was a noted Indian fighter in the country around Frankfort for many years. Grandfather Mitchell was of German descent. William Walden, who was a cooper by occupation, was taken by his father from Virginia to Kentucky when he was ten years old. There he learned his trade, and after working at it several years, moved (in 1829) to Illinois, living near Springfield for a considerable period. Thence he moved to Terre Haute, Ind., where he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1842. The mother died twelve years later. William Walden was a staunch Jackson Democrat in early life, but in 1840 identified himself with the Whig party. He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church. They were the parents of sixteen children, of whom two sisters of the subject of this sketch are supposed to be still living.

Aaron W. Walden was reared on a farm, and in early youth received his education in the subscription schools. In 1852 he left Indiana and located in DeWitt County, Ill., where he applied himself to breaking the raw prairie for cultivation. Subsequently he went to Bloomington, Ill., where for five years he was engaged in the manufacture of brick, doing a very large business. After living in several different counties in the State, he finally settled in Livingston County in 1869, locating on a farm of 160 acres in Rooks Creek Township. To his first purchase he gradually added until, at one time, he was the owner of 700 acres all of which he sold, investing in farmlands near Spencer, S. D. For several years he has spent his time partly with his son in Rooks Creek Township, and partly with one of his daughters, a widow in Pontiac, Livingston County. In 1862, Mr. Walden enlisted in Company F, Ninety-fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which he was elected captain. He took part in the battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, and after serving seven months, was discharged on account of disability.

Mr. Walden has been four times married. In 1841 he was wedded to Evelyn Sparks, a native of Kentucky, but who died in 1845. In 1846 he married Margaret Black, who was born in Delaware, and had come to Terre Haute, Ind., with her father's family. She died in 1851, having borne him two children, one of whom, William Z., is now a resident of Pontiac. The other died in childhood. Mr. Walden's third wife was Frances Moly, and after her death, he was united in marriage (in 1853) with Rachael Springer, a native of McLean County, Ill., by whom he had eight children. Of these,

four are still living, namely: Aaron, Evelyn, Rosella and Mary. Their mother died March 24, 1902.

Politically, Mr. Walden has long been identified with the Republican party, and in the course of his active life served the public as School Director. He has had a long, busy and honorable career, and now, in his waning years, has the satisfaction of being well provided with this world's goods, and the assurance of the cordial regard and hearty good will of all with whom he is brought into intimate contact.

WALLACE, John, formerly of Pontiac, Livingston County, Ill., in various capacities won the high esteem of all who knew him. Not only in civil life, but as a soldier during the Civil War, he made his mark and left a record of valuable achievements in his day and generation.

Mr. Wallace was born August 14, 1842, on a ship off the coast of Scotland, while his parents were en route to the United States. They were Robert and Ellen (Howe) Wallace, natives of England, while his father was a farmer. To them the journey was memorable in more ways than one. The vessel in which they crossed the ocean was one of those old fashioned sailing crafts which required five of six weeks to make a trip, which the modern steamer would make in five of six days. They landed at New York, whence they went to Philadelphia, and there the family remained for a year while the husband and father going west, bought and began to improve a farm three miles west of Ottawa, Ill., where the whole family eventually found a home and where its head died of cholera in 1849.

The immediate subject of this sketch began his education in the public schools at Ottawa. The family was broken up by the death of his father, the boy then returning to Philadelphia, where for two years he continued his schooling. Then, coming back to Ottawa, he may be said to have begun his active life as a farmer's boy of all work. His mother married John Shaw, of South Ottawa, with whom he made his home until August, 1862, when he patriotically responded to his country's call for aid in the suppression of the rebellion. Then enlisting in Company E, One Hundred and Fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, he had an experience of more than usual interest and discomfort. During the battle of Chickamauga he was taken prisoner and for fifteen months endured confinement and hardship in Libby prison, Andersonville prison pen and a military prison at Danville. Eventually he was exchanged and honorably discharged at Washington in June, 1865. Going back to Ottawa, he became interested in railway construction, and as a contractor helped to build the Wabash Railroad from Ottawa to Streator. He studied civil engineering under an old and successful engineer who had been a student under the Hon. Bronson Murray, who was at one time State Engineer for the State of New York. In 1871 he became a general land agent, having charge of many large farms in

Livingston County. He lived on a farm between Rooks Creek and Pontiac until 1902, when he bought a fine residence on East Washington Street, Pontiac, into which he removed with his family. He died July 11, 1905, of chronic bronchitis, in Colorado, where he had gone with the hope of benefitting his health.

Mr. Wallace married Isabelle Hicks, April 18, 1872. Mrs. Wallace, who was born at Ottawa, April 10, 1852, was a daughter of William and Isabelle (Burton) Hicks, natives of England. Their son William S. Wallace of Pontiac, born July 29, 1879, is in the rural free delivery mail service of the United States. Their daughter Lura Belle, born April 23, 1884, is a book-keeper in the office of the Pontiac Daily Leader. Their daughter Maud Emma, a popular school teacher, was born April 8, 1889. The mother of these children died December 11, 1893, and March 26, 1895, Mr. Wallace married her sister, Rebecca Hicks, a native of Ottawa.

Mr. Wallace was a lifelong Republican, of the old school who voted as they shot and shot as they voted. From early in the history of that organization he was a devoted and active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, he was a helpful and liberal promoter of all its various interests. In all the relations of life, his rule and conduct were such as won for him the approbation of all with whom he came in contact. As a farmer, as a business man, as a soldier in his relations to the public affairs of his township, county and State, in his social and religious activities, he was in the highest degree useful and efficient. All in all his career was such as must commend itself to the reader as an illustration of the character of the men who have promoted the development of Illinois and an example well worthy of the emulation of the present and coming generations.

WALLACE, Robert R.—Clearly outlined against the history of jurisprudence in Livingston County for more than two-score years is the scholarly, efficient, and upright career of Judge Robert R. Wallace, the predominating features of whose career are centered around the office of County Judge, which he sustained with dignity and fairness from 1873 until 1894. Judge Wallace was born on a farm near Uniontown, Belmont County, Ohio, March 13, 1835, a son of David and Frances C. (Ross) Wallace. He was educated primarily in the country schools of Ohio, eventually entering Monmouth College, at Monmouth, Ill., from which he was duly graduated in the class of 1861.

The Civil War proved a remarkably developing experience for Judge Wallace, and, coming at the outset of his independent career, inculcated lessons of stern and uncompromising import. In 1862 he donned the blue as a private in the Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving until his honorable discharge in 1866 with the rank of captain. He is enrolled among the fearless and intrepid fighters of his regiment, among the men whose fixity of purpose and control

brought peace to the stricken nation. After the war he was free to pursue the study of law upon which his early ambition had settled, and in 1867, the year of his admission to the bar, he located in Livingston County, which since has so richly profited by his association and public service.

As usual with most lawyers who desire to reap the largest compensations from their calling, Judge Wallace has joined political with professional activity, and as a staunch and uncompromising Democrat has held many minor offices both before and since his election to the County Judgeship. Few men of the town or county have so vigorously promoted the cause of education, or so markedly impressed their personality and worth upon the prevailing system of instruction. He has been a member of both the City and High School Boards, and was particularly active in the organization and subsequent work of the latter. In religion the Judge is a Presbyterian and is also a member of T. Lyle Dickey Post No. 105, Grand Army of the Republic. The marriage of Judge Wallace and Louise Strawn occurred in Ottawa, Ill., June 3, 1867, and of the union there are the following children: Ross Strawn; Frances L., wife of Rev. Isaiah Ravenaugh; Mary Lucile; and Grace Champlin, deceased.

WALTON BROTHERS.—In none of the enterprises which contribute to its homogeneity is the history of a community more clearly and unerringly read than in the rise of its mercantile establishments. With agriculture and carpentering, merchandising ranks with the earliest of fundamental occupations, and since time immemorial the merchant has kept his finger upon the pulse of his community, understanding its needs and exactions, and studying human nature in its great as well as small aspects. Whether at the country cross-roads, in the mining camps or the heart of cities, an inventory of his shelves and conveniences discloses the character, the purposes and inclinations of his customers, as it indicates also—providing he is a progressive and far sighted purveyor—his opportunity as an improver of public tastes and ideals. It is in this appreciation of his opportunity that the successful differs from the unsuccessful or mediocre merchant. In nine cases out of ten the former has begun at the bottom round of the ladder in a much bejumbled country store, and the homely but trite lessons there gained have pushed him to the front in proportion as he has insight, adaptiveness, integrity, courtesy and obligingness. These qualities belong to all who to-day are known as responsible and progressive merchants, and who have, by their untiring industry and good judgment, built up a firm business superstructure in their respective States. Illinois, rich in its substantial mercantile element, points with pride to its merchant princes both in and out of its great metropolis, and it has been given to Fairbury, Livingston County, to develop and maintain, through many

years of its history, the largest and best equipped department store outside of the city of Chicago.

The Walton Brothers Company, whose era of merchandising in Fairbury began in 1868, just forty years ago, were born near Columbus, Ohio, and reared among the most humble surroundings. Isaac Walton, who first came to this county, was so far from realizing his great achievements as a merchant, that he was glad to get work as a farm hand at five dollars a month, and to remain thus employed with slight advance of wages for several years. During this time his active brain became interested in trading, and the better to exercise this tendency, in 1868 he started a little grocery store. Soon afterwards he was joined by his brother, Wesley, and they became equal partners in the business, and it is from this small beginning that has come, through various stages and many disheartening, as well as encouraging experiences, the present splendid mercantile establishment of Fairbury. The increase of stock and general enlargement of the business was greatly facilitated by outside ventures of the brothers, and they operated successfully coal mines and elevators, thus becoming more directly connected with the heart of local enterprise. The available resources of the company in 1884 may best be understood by the statement that, after the destruction of their entire stock by fire, at a loss of \$100,000, business was resumed upon a paying basis in less than ten days. Twelve years later, in 1896, the place was again swept by flames, entailing a loss half as great as before, and in which emergency the building now occupied by the company arose a mute testimonial of the intrepid and inspiring courage and zeal of the owners.

Nine departments indicate the scope of trade maintained by these merchants of two-score years. In 1901 the business was incorporated under the laws of the State, under the name of Walton Bros. Co., and five of the oldest and most trusted employes were taken in as partners, each being the head of a department. Of these, Hugh Pence became cashier; J. P. Mitten, head of the grocery department; C. W. Neitz, head of the clothing department; W. W. Grether, head of the shoe department; and M. Gordon head of the hardware department. The business is capitalized for \$100,000, but there is fully \$125,000 worth of goods carried, an effort being made to have each department as nearly representative of its kind as the size of the town and general demand will permit. A business of \$250,000 may be annually counted on, and the trade covers an extended surrounding territory. The Walton Brothers Company stand for the best and most dependable in twentieth century merchandising, and their rise from small beginnings constitutes one of the most helpful and emphatic lessons in thrift and perseverance available in local business. Their prudence and conservatism are exceptional, their prescience almost infallible, and their integrity has weathered the test of as great adversity and discouragement as

befalls any of our great masters of trade. Partakers in an infant community's struggles for supremacy, they have developed with much of the vitality and resourcefulness of people of the prairies who, from being surrounded with wide and many-sided opportunities, imprint these qualities upon their own minds, and exhale them in their individual and collective deeds.

WATSON, Henry B., a pioneer resident of Central Illinois for more than forty years, a prosperous farmer in Forrest Township, Livingston County, and an honored veteran of the Civil War, is a man most sincerely respected wherever known. Mr. Watson was born February 5, 1837, in the town of Torrington, Conn., in which State this branch of the Watson family traces its ancestry back to the early part of the seventeenth century. The parents of Henry B. Watson were George and Jane (Belding) Watson, the mother being of a Connecticut lineage equally as long as that of the Watsons. At an early period, George Watson, who was a farmer descended from several generations of farmers, moved from New England in 1844, to Warren County, Ill., driving a flock of 150 sheep which he had bought in Pennsylvania. The issue of his marriage with Jane Belding was one son and two daughters, the latter being residents of Connecticut. After her death, the father married Sophia White, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., the wedding taking place in 1848, and the offspring of this union being five children. The death of George Watson occurred in Warren County.

In Warren County, Henry B. Watson, the son, followed farming and was also engaged in raising sheep until 1862. The educational advantages of his early youth had been very meager. At an early period of the Civil War, he enlisted in Battery A, First Wisconsin Artillery, which was attached to the Army of the Potomac, and he participated in some of the important artillery engagements in that region, being subsequently promoted to Second Lieutenant in the Eleventh United States Artillery, which was dispatched to Fort Jackson, La., and later to Fort Brashear. There it remained until October, 1865, having been on duty since May of that year keeping order in the neighboring country. This work being ended, it was sent by steamer to Providence, R. I., where Mr. Watson was mustered out on the 25th of October. On returning from the war he located on the farm in Livingston County, Ill., where he has since continued to live. It is now worth \$200 per acre, having advanced from \$15 per acre since its purchase by the present owner.

On November 5, 1868, Mr. Watson was married to Emma Francis of Ripley, Ohio, and their union was blessed with three children, namely: Flora, Thoms F. and George E. Thomas, who is the father of three children, is a farmer in Indiana, and George is in the employ of the International Harvester Company, at Buenos Ayres, South America.

Politically, Mr. Watson is an old-time Republican, having voted twice for Abraham Lincoln

for President. His religious connection is with the Congregational church. He is an interested student in geology, and has a fine cabinet of specimens of the stone age. He is a member of Forrest Post, No. 114, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he served as Commander in 1887.

WAY, William Burnette.—Years of increasing farm values, with an era of good prices for farm products, have placed landowners of fertile Illinois farms in an enviable position and on an equal footing with city business men, many of whom, reared on a farm, are investing surplus earnings in farm property adjacent to the city and reached by the trolley lines that are threading the country in all directions. One of the self-made, thrifty and successful farmers of Livingston County, is William Burnette Way, of Section 18, Indian Grove Township, who was born in New York City, November 9, 1858, a son of William Thomas and Jane (McLean) Way, natives of England and Ireland, respectively. Both came when young to New York, and were married at Corning, N. Y., February 10, 1852. They had children as follows: Franklin; Emeline, married Thomas McGantlin at Fishkill, N. Y., and died, leaving two children—Alice T., who resides at Little Monument, N. Y., and John, who was reared by his grandmother and took the name of Thompkins. Frank and Emeline were reared by a family named Oleson. The mother of these children died in New York City January 26, 1865, when William was about seven years old, and he was sent to an orphan asylum. His father was a builder and contractor of New York City, and worked as foreman on the bridge across the Hudson river at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He remained there for some time, then went to Odell, Ill., where he served as deputy postmaster and freight and station agent for some time, then engaged in railroad contracting, residing for some years at Bloomington. He later returned to New York City, later to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and there remained until his death on January 8, 1887.

At the age of nine years, Mr. William B. Way was sent to the West and made his home with John T. Jacobs, of Livingston County, who reared him. He has but little recollection of his father. Mr. Jacobs gave him an excellent education, and he worked on the farm, remaining with the Jacobs family until 1879. On September 5, 1880, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ann Harrison, born in Fairbury, September 20, 1861, a daughter of Preston Harrison, a sketch of whom is to be found elsewhere in this work. The young couple began farming on the farm owned by Mrs. Way's grandfather, Isam Moore, and remained there until 1883. They then left Indian Grove Township and went to Anchor, McLean County, where they remained until 1885 when they returned to their first home. In March, 1892, they moved on their present farm, and during all of their married life they have been engaged in farming and stock raising, meeting with unqualified success.

Mr. and Mrs. Way have children as follows: Jennie R., born March 6, 1885, in Indian Grove

Township, married John R. Kelso, a farmer located near Centralia, Mo., and they have two children, John Mace and Naomi J.; John T., born August 28, 1887, died December 8, 1890; Nellie E., born March 22, 1893; Milton S., born October 2, 1895, died January 26, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Way have given their children excellent educations, and Miss Nellie has developed a wonderful talent for painting which promises to blossom into genius. She is very young, only sixteen, and yet already she has executed some very wonderful work. At the age of eleven years she was sent to St. Joseph's Academy, St. Louis, Mo., which she attended four years, in the meantime taking special lessons in painting. Her work is all done in oil, and her talent for securing likenesses is remarkable. Although an adept in painting portraits, she is equally good in animals and landscape, and her work has attracted considerable attention. She is making some very ambitious plans for the future, and, without doubt, will prove one of the leading artists of Illinois. Not only is she talented as an artist, but she is equally proficient in music and much care has been bestowed upon her cultivation in this art.

Mr. Way for years served very acceptably as Clerk of the School Board, and for six years was Treasurer of the Township, and has always been identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, and Court of Honor. Hard-working, thrifty, and a good manager, he has made himself known as a progressive farmer and stock-raiser and a public-spirited citizen, who is widely known and highly respected.

WEBBER, George, one of the most extensive farmers and stock-raisers of Livingston County, Ill., was born in Woodford County, Ill., July 8, 1859, a son of George and Sophia (Horner) Webber, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, where the father was born in 1823 and the mother in 1826. In 1847 they came to the United States, and lived in New York State until 1856, when they removed to Woodford County, Ill., changing their location to Livingston County about the year 1869. Here the father had 360 acres of land, on which he followed farming many years. He died December 10, 1905, at the age of eighty-two years, his wife having passed away April 17, 1903, when seventy-seven years old. They had five sons and three daughters and of these, two are deceased. In politics, the father was a Democrat. He and his wife were members of the Evangelical Association in their religious connection. George Webber, the subject of this sketch, was reared on a farm, and educated in the common schools of Pike Township. He has always followed farming, and now owns 502 acres of land, all acquired through his own industry and wise management. He is an extensive corn grower and, besides general farming, raises a great deal of stock. He deals in horses and quite extensively in mules. In all his undertakings he has pros-

pered greatly, and is looked upon as one of the most successful agriculturists of the county.

On February 22, 1884, Mr. Webber was married to Lucinda Irons, who was born October 23, 1865, in Tazewell County, Ill., a daughter of Christian and Charlotte (Bennett) Irons, the former a native of Wurtemberg, and the latter of the State of Kentucky. Mr. Irons came from his native country to America after the death of his father, being nine years of age when he landed at New York with his mother. After his marriage he came to Illinois, and for a number of years lived on a farm near Danvers, McLean County, but in 1896 he and his wife removed to Essex, Kankakee County, where they have since lived a retired life. In politics, Mr. Irons is a Democrat, and his religious connection is with the Lutheran church. He and his wife had a family of five daughters and two sons, all of whom are still living. To Mr. and Mrs. George Webber there have been born twelve children, namely: Lucy, born February 2, 1885; Walter, October 1, 1886; Pearl, September 22, 1888; Simon, April 16, 1891; Roy, August 7, 1892; Cora, March 9, 1894; Elmer, March 31, 1896; Earl, September 6, 1898; Hollie, January 9, 1900; Ottis, May 15, 1902; George, June 14, 1905; and Mabel, June 8, 1907.

Politically Mr. Webber is a supporter of the Democratic party, but has never sought public office.

WEBER, Lawrence, whose fine 200-acre farm lies near the limits of the village of Graymont, Livingston County, Ill., and who is considered one of the most thorough and successful farmers of his locality, was born in Germany, April 15, 1848, a son of Michael and Frances (Heinzman) Weber, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1853, settling on a farm in Woodford County, Ill., whence in 1867 they moved to eighty acres which the father had bought in Livingston County. He died April 14, 1893, his wife having passed away in 1890. They had eight children, six of whom are living. Politically, Michael Weber took an independent position, and in religion he and his wife were Catholics.

Lawrence Weber was reared on the home farm, and received his education in the public schools. Since reaching manhood, he has always followed farming, and is the owner of 200 acres of land situated a mile from the village of Graymont. In addition to general farming, he devotes considerable attention to raising stock, and his labors have been rewarded by abundant success.

In 1881, Mr. Weber was joined in matrimony with Eve Folk, born in Woodford County, Ill., in 1862, a daughter of Joseph and Teresa (Wieland) Folk, natives of Germany, who, on arriving in this country, settled in the above mentioned county, where they still live. Mr. and Mrs. Weber have had seven children, as follows: Frank; Michael; Julia; Catherine, deceased; Frances; Maggie; and Lawrence. In political matters, Mr. Weber acts independently of party. He and his wife belong to the Catholic church.

WEBER, Leonard, a thorough, thrifty and reliable farmer, living in Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., who stands well among his neighbors and is regarded as a useful citizen, was born in New York State, February 2, 1850, a son of George and Sophia (Hoerner) Weber, a record of whose lives, together with their family history, may be seen elsewhere in this connection. The subject of this sketch was brought up to farm life, his education being obtained in the common schools. Since reaching years of maturity he has always followed general farming and stock-raising, and is the owner of 160 acres of very desirable land, on which his labors have been rewarded with good results.

Mr. Weber was united in marriage, on April 2, 1877, with Barbara Fischer, born in Woodford County, Ill., a daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Attig) Fischer, whose lives are portrayed in another portion of this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Weber have been born three children, namely: Barbara, wife of Louis Schinbeck, of Pike Township; Joseph G., who married Adelaide Schaffer, of the same township; and Leonard Frederick, who is with his parents.

Politically, Mr. Weber maintains an independent attitude, and has never taken a very active interest in party contests, having no desire for public office. The religious connection of himself and wife is with the Evangelical Association.

WEBER, William, a well known and successful farmer, of Pike Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a resident of the county since his boyhood, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., in May, 1863, a son of George and Sophia (Hoerner) Weber, natives of Germany, a history of whose lives may be found elsewhere in this connection, as a feature in the sketch of George Weber, another member of the family. William Weber received his education in the common schools of Livingston County, where his parents located when he was quite young. He was reared on the home farm, and since reaching his maturity, has been engaged in general farming. He is the owner of 160 acres of fine land, and is regarded as a thorough, careful and diligent farmer.

The marriage of Mr. Weber took place in Livingston County on March 24, 1894, at which time Rosa Eisele, a daughter of Frederick and Louise (Hoke) Eisele, became his wife. Her parents are still living in Pontiac, Ill. Five children have been born to this union, namely: Harry, Wondy, Clarence, Louis and Wesley. In politics, Mr. Weber is a supporter of the Democratic party. His religious belief, as well as that of his wife, is in accordance with the creed of the Methodist Episcopal church.

WENDEL, Henry, a well known and much respected citizen of Forrest, Livingston County, Ill., where, after a successful experience in agricultural pursuits, he has been for many years engaged in the grain and coal trade with equal success, was born in Bureau County, Ill., Sep-

tember 12, 1853. His parents, Frederick and Margaret (Druckenbaugh) Wendel, were natives of Bavaria, Germany, where the birth of the father took place in 1819, and that of the mother in 1825. The former died in Bureau County at the age of seventy-seven years, the latter having passed away in the same county in 1867. Both parents were members of old and reputable families in the fatherland. They emigrated to the United States in 1846, and, journeying on to Illinois, settled in Bureau County, where the remainder of their lives was spent. Frederick Wendel was a persevering, thrifty and prosperous farmer, and a useful member of the community.

Henry Wendel was reared on the home place, and in boyhood utilized the opportunities afforded by the district schools in the vicinity. In 1875 he located on a farm in Section 32, Pleasant Ridge Township, Livingston County, and began farming on 320 acres of wild land, purchased at a cost of \$15 per acre. This he improved and operated until it was developed into a model farm. He devoted much of his attention to stock-raising and feeding cattle and hogs. In 1888 he relinquished his farm labors and took up his residence in the village of Forrest, Ill., building a grain elevator on the opposite side of the street from his present location, and after conducting it for some time, sold out. A year later he bought from J. B. Jane the grain and coal concern in which he is now engaged, where he has met with notable success. He is a man of good business qualifications and reliable character, and enjoys the respect and confidence of all with whom his transactions bring him into contact.

In 1876, Mr. Wendel was joined in matrimony with Margaret Fauber, who was born in Bureau County, Ill., July 31, 1851. Mrs. Wendel is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Rechdenbaugh) Fauber, natives of Germany. From this union have resulted three children, namely: Sarah D.; Fred E., who married Maude Buckley, of Forrest, Ill.; and Harry J. G. The first and last named are at home.

In politics, Mr. Wendel is an unswerving Republican and keeps himself thoroughly informed in the matter of party issues and current events.

WERTZ, Charles Washington.—Well known as a retired farmer of Amity Township, Livingston County. Mr. Wertz has been identified with the agricultural interests of his county for many years. Of German lineage, he was born in Bedford County, Pa., July 16, 1826, a son of Thomas and Eve (Dibert) Wertz, also natives of Bedford County. The paternal grandparents, George and Nancy (Consort) Wertz, were born in Germany, and England, respectively, while the maternal grandparents, Charles and Jennie (Steele) Dibert, were natives of Pennsylvania. In an early day George Wertz became a pioneer of Bedford County, where eventually he acquired the ownership of many acres of timber land and devoted years of strenuous effort to the clearing of his large tracts. At the time of arriving at maturity, Thomas Wertz bought 100 acres of the

homestead and, by dint of resolute effort and industry, transformed the property into a productive and improved farm. There he made his home until July 14, 1842, when he passed from the scenes of earth.

Upon the death of his father, Charles W. Wertz took charge of the home place and cared for his mother and the younger members of the family. About 1847 he left home to make his own way in the world. For a time he remained in the East, but soon decided to seek a home in the prairies of the West. On the 10th of October, 1850, he arrived in Pekin, Tazewell County, Ill., having made the journey from the East with a one-horse wagon. Seven years after his arrival he bought a house and lot in Pekin, but on December 22, 1864, moved to a farm of 160 acres, which he had purchased the preceding September. The property was located in Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, and about 100 acres had been placed under cultivation. During the ensuing years he brought the farm into a high state of cultivation and made many improvements.

Relinquishing his interests in the old homestead in 1883, Mr. Wertz removed to Lancaster County, Neb., and there bought eighty acres, where he remained for six years. At this writing he owns 160 acres in Lancaster County near the city of Lincoln. On returning to Illinois in 1888, he settled at Graymont, Livingston County, and eleven years later came to Amity Township, where he now makes his home with his son, William H. Since 1889 he has been retired from farm pursuits, and has enjoyed the ease to which years of activity entitled him. Politically a Republican, he has held various township and school offices, and has been interested in educational affairs, as well as in all movements for the uplifting of the race. In religion he is of the Baptist faith. January 28, 1847, he was united in marriage with Sarah Jane Lyons, who was born at Shippensburg, Pa., December 22, 1827, and died November 28, 1899; her body being interred in the cemetery in Amity Township. She was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Bocker) Lyons, and by her marriage became the mother of the following-named children: Samuel, who was born April 1, 1848, and now occupies the old homestead; William H., born May 30, 1851, who owns eighty acres on Section 28, Amity Township; Mary Jane, who was born January 3, 1854, and married Butler Alberson, of Rooks Creek Township, John Wesley, who was born May 8, 1857, and now rents his father's farm in Nebraska; Sarah Elizabeth, who was born March 12, 1860, and married William Fry, of Kankakee County, Ill.; Charles, who was born August 19, 1863, and is now engaged in the lumber business at Kankakee; and Eugene, who was born February 25, 1870, and is now living in Nebraska engaged in farming near the city of Lincoln.

WESTERVELT, Charles H., a retired farmer and honored pioneer resident of Section 5, Belle

Prairie Township, was born in Franklin County, Ohio, April 11, 1847, and when a lad of thirteen years was brought by his parents to Livingston County, so that for nearly half a century he has been identified with the growth and wonderful development of this very productive section of the Middle West, and during that time has been an active participant in many steps which have been influential factors in bringing about those results. He is a son of James L. and Mary (Connelly) Westervelt, both natives of New York, and both of whom were brought to Franklin County, Ohio, by their parents. James L. Westervelt was born June 1, 1819, and died October 20, 1880. His wife was born December 10, 1820, and died November 24, 1905, at the advanced age of eighty-five. They were married in Franklin County, Ohio, September 22, 1841, and there their children were all born. Mrs. Westervelt's family originated in Germany, but aside from that there is no definite data of the maternal side of the house.

Upon coming to Illinois, the Westervelt family first located in Livingston County, but later settled on a farm near Fairbury in Yates Township, McLean County, where they remained until 1880, at which time they removed to Fairbury, where both died. Their children were: Oscar, born July 24, 1842, married Miss Sarah L. Veatch, daughter of Decatur Veatch, and died September 6, 1899, his widow now residing in Fairbury; Alford L., born March 4, 1845, died September 29, 1854; Charles H.; Ernest S., born September 4, 1849, a resident of Fairbury; a child who died in infancy; William E., born January 14, 1853, died May 20, 1873; John Chase, M. D., born June 7, 1855, now a physician of Shelbyville, Ill., and member of the State Board of Health; George W., born September 17, 1857, is a blacksmith of Fairbury; and James L., born August 19, 1860, a real estate and loan broker of Chicago. Both Mr. and Mrs. Westervelt were active members of the Methodist church. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and politically a Republican. Social in manner, he made many friends, and yet his dearest place was his home, and was tenderly loved within its circle and deeply mourned when death took him away.

Charles H. Westervelt attended school in Franklin County, and already understood farm work when brought to Illinois at thirteen years of age, thus from the first giving material assistance in the making of the new home. He remained with his parents until twenty-five, when he accepted a clerkship in a grocery store with his brother Oscar, with whom he remained for ten years. He then embarked in the photograph business, but upon his marriage, two years later resumed farming. On February 10, 1875, Mr. Westervelt was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Hieronymus, daughter of the venerable Benjamin Hieronymus, who lived for fifty years on the farm now occupied by the subject of this sketch. Mr. Hieronymus was born January 13, 1818, and died in Belle Prairie Township, Liv-

ingston County, December 31, 1881. His wife was born February 1, 1822, and passed away March 25, 1901. Their marriage occurred September 19, 1832, and they had eight children, only three of them are now living. Mrs. Westervelt was born on the home farm, June 19, 1849.

In the fall of 1875 Mr. and Mrs. Westervelt rented the Hieronymus farm of eighty acres, and upon the death of Mrs. Westervelt's mother in 1901, they purchased the property which is one of the best farms in the township. They have made many improvements on it, including the erection of a comfortable nine-room home, well supplied with modern conveniences. To the original eighty acres they have added until they now operate 218 acres, all in a high state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Westervelt are the parents of these children: Ellis B., born September 24, 1876, married Edna Hanna on January 22, 1902, they live on the homestead and to them have been born one child,—Frederick D., born April 11, 1905; Lester R., born September 17, 1879, married Miss Katie Shie on December 25, 1906, and they live on the homestead; Vera May, born May 10, 1882; Hazel Dean, born November 3, 1888. Since 1905 Mr. Westervelt has left the active management of the farm to his sons, enterprising young farmers, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors. He belongs to Yeoman Lodge of Fairbury. In politics he is a Republican, although not an office-seeker. His wife and daughters belong to the Christian Church and are active in religious work. Honorable, industrious, and public-spirited, Mr. Westervelt is one of the best examples of the retired farmers of Livingston County, and has a right to feel proud of what he has accomplished during his useful life.

WHALEN, Daniel, for twenty years a prominent and highly esteemed citizen of Flanagan, Livingston County, Ill., where he is identified with the real estate business, and has valuable property interests, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, December 24, 1854. Mr. Whalen's parents, Michael and Mary (Ryan) Whalen, who were natives of Ireland, came to the United States in 1848, locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, whence they moved to Fayette County in the same state, and in 1856, to Will County, Ill., settling near Wilmington. There Michael Whalen bought 240 acres of land, on which he was engaged in farming during the remainder of his life. He died June 19, 1902, at the age of seventy-five years, his wife having passed away December 22, 1887, when fifty-six years old. Their family consisted of ten children, of whom two sons and three daughters are still living. In politics, Michael Whalen was a Democrat, and served the public as Road Commissioner. He and his family were members of the Catholic church.

Daniel Whalen was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the common schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-five years old, and then went to Buckingham, Kankakee County, Ill., where he spent six

years in the grocery business, going thence to Minonk, Ill., where the next two years were spent. In 1887 he changed his location to Flanagan, which has since been his place of residence. He has had a prosperous career in the real-estate line, and is the owner of an attractive home and a fine business building.

On November 19, 1879, Mr. Whalen was united in marriage with Rosanna Geelen, who was born in Wilmington, Ill., a daughter of Henry and Hannah (Haley) Geelen, who settled in Will County at an early period and subsequently moved to Chicago, where Mr. Geelen died. His widow is still a resident of that city. To Mr. and Mrs. Whalen four children have been born, as follows: Mary, who died in infancy; Henry M.; Nellie, and Charles A. The eldest son, Henry, was educated in St. Viateur's College, at Bourbonnais, Ill., and married Mary C. Flanagan, daughter of Peter and Catherine (O'Connell) Flanagan, whose family history appears on another page of this volume. Nellie Whalen received her education in the convent at Morris, Ill., where she graduated in 1905, and Charles A. is a student in the Flanagan High School.

Politically, Mr. Whalen is a Democrat, and held the office of Postmaster of Flanagan from 1893 to 1897. He is now a member of the Village Council. He and his family are devout adherents of the Catholic faith. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

WHEATLAND, William T.—Illinois farm land in the corn belt is very valuable and those fortunate enough to possess farms in this section of the state are to be envied, for their rich black acres are gold mines that produce golden kernels, not of metal, but of corn that are worth almost their weight in the precious metal. William T. Wheatland, who has great faith in the future of corn as the world cereal, and who is well qualified to give his opinion on the subject because of a life-long acquaintance with it, was born on a farm in Farm Ridge Township, LaSalle County, Ill., February 1, 1861, a son of William and Mary A. (Casey) Wheatland. The former is a native of Ohio, while the mother was born in LaSalle County, and was there reared and married. The father has always been a farmer and stock-raiser, and still resides on the Wheatland homestead, where he settled upon his marriage, and where his children were all born. They are as follows: William T., Julia married Edward O'Connell, a farmer residing near Sugar Grove, Ill.; John who resides near Amboy, Ill.; Alice, married Henry Mullen a farmer near Grand Ridge, LaSalle County; Albert, a farmer in Grand Ridge Township; Joseph, farming on the homestead; Catherine, married James Naughton, a farmer of Grand Ridge Township. The elder Mr. Wheatland has always been actively interested in township affairs, and is a strong Republican. Mrs. Wheatland is a Catholic.

Alternating labor on the farm in the summer and attending public school in the winter, William T. Wheatland grew to manhood, remaining

at home until he was twenty-five years old, when he was married, on February 21, 1886, to Miss Catherine Dooley, who was born in Grand Rapids Township, LaSalle County, a daughter of Martin Dooley and Bridget (Corbett) Dooley. Mr. Dooley died about 1891, but Mrs. Dooley is living in Ransom, LaSalle County. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dooley: Mary, who married Thomas Casey, of Ransom Township; Isabel married Frank McCabe, of Worthington, Minn.; James, of Joliet, Ill.; John, of Dwight, Ill.; Timothy, of Ransom, Ill.; Martin died at the age of thirty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Wheatland have one son, William Lester, who was born in Grand Ridge, LaSalle County, November 1, 1887, and is at home. After their marriage, the young couple rented land, stocking it with money lent by the elder Mr. Wheatland, and resided in LaSalle County until 1896, when they removed to Sunbury Township, Livingston County, where Mr. Wheatland bought 100 acres on Section 28. There they resided until 1897, when Mr. Wheatland hired a man and put him in charge of that property, and rented 240 acres in Esmen Township. In 1899, he returned to his farm, and in 1900 sold it and bought 156 acres on Sections 21 and 22. This property is in a high state of cultivation, and is well stocked with a good grade of Short-horn cattle, Poland-China and Duroc-Jersey hogs, the latter being his preference. Mr. Wheatland has also an excellent grade of horses, and his product commands good prices. In 1904 he started cultivating bees with one stand, and now has thirty hives, and in all his enterprises has been successful.

Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Lodge 1250, of Ransom, and the Knights of Columbus. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. In politics he has always been a staunch Republican. Always straight forward in his dealings with the public, those who know him best entertain the highest confidence in his integrity, recognizing the fact that his word is as good as his bond.

WHEELER, Oscar B.—The business interests of Long Point are largely dependent upon the activity of the men who compose its commercial center. Through the enterprise of these men values are increased and maintained, and new interests are introduced. Oscar B. Wheeler, grain and lumber merchant, banker and farmer of Long Point, is one of the leading men of his community, and is well known throughout Livingston County. He was born on Section 10, Long Point Township, November 2, 1867, a son of Oscar B. and Eleanor (Campbell) Wheeler, natives of New York State and Illinois, respectively.

Oscar B. Wheeler was reared on the Long Point homestead, and early became accustomed to the duties of farm life, while at the same time attending the district school. Later he went to Valparaiso, Ind., then returned and worked on the farm. January 9, 1889, he married Miss

Maud Taggart, who was born in Lacon, Ill., March 5, 1868, a daughter of James H. and Josephine (Muraugh) Taggart, natives of Belmont County, Ohio. (See sketch of James H. Taggart on a preceding page in this work.)

In 1898 Mr. Wheeler took over his father-in-law's interests in the lumber and grain business, at Long Point, Livingston County, and has since been extensively engaged in handling both commodities, and now has two elevators with a united capacity of 81,000 bushels. He also handles stock and pays the highest market prices. When the State Bank of Long Point was organized in 1906, he became its Vice-President and Assistant Cashier, and his sound conservatism was largely instrumental in bringing the bank through the panic of 1908 so creditably and with credit unimpaired, when so many similar institutions could not weather the financial storm. In addition to other large interests, Mr. Wheeler manages his farm of 200 acres of the old homestead and 160 acres on Section 23, Long Point Township, aggregating 360 acres owned by him in the Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler have had the following children: the first born died in infancy; Mildred, born on the farm, November 27, 1890; Lella, born July 3, 1893; Helen, born June 24, 1896; a son who died in infancy; Oscar B., the third, born March 24, 1906. Politically, Mr. Wheeler is a Republican, and, like his father, has always been very public-spirited. His good business sense has gained him a goodly share of this world's goods. Strictly honest in business dealings, loyal to his friends and devoted to his family, Mr. Wheeler has made a record for himself of which he and his loved ones may well be proud.

WHEELER, Oscar B., Sr. (deceased).—In these days, so far removed from the struggles and privations of pioneer life, it is sometimes difficult to appreciate in full measure all the State owes to those brave souls who penetrated the wilds and, by hard work, untiring energy and most severe frugality, prepared the way for the present civilization. The wild beasts were not more savage than the Indians, and both forest and swamp had to be conquered before any profits came to the pioneer. He and his family lived in the primitive log cabins, but poorly sheltered from either rain or snow. Oiled paper took the place of glass in the windows, and the furniture was home manufactured. The clothing not only was all made by the busy housemother, but the cloth also, and she did her own work in the home and helped many times in the fields. Churches, schools and roads were still in the future, and yet these sturdy pioneers were not discouraged, but kept on, gradually building churches, schools, making roads, and bringing their land into a high state of cultivation. The primitive log cabin was replaced by the commodious residence of frame or brick, and comforts crept into the home life. Now their children and grandchildren are enjoying the fruits of their labors.

Oscar B. Wheeler, Sr., was one of these pioneers who came to Livingston County at an early day from New York State where he was born, and here entered eighty acres of land on Section 10 Long Point Township, and while clearing his land worked for \$6.00 a month. Sometimes he had to take his pay in a calf or other farm commodity, as money was very scarce. Perhaps this method of payment started him in his business of dealing in live stock, in which he was so successful that he soon became known as one of the leaders, and he gained control of a large territory in this part of the county. In time he increased his original holdings until he owned 1,040 acres. As his business increased, he increased his investments and built the Oriental Building on the corner of Main and Blooming Streets, Streator, Ill. There he engaged in the butchering business but later sold all his interests in Streator and devoted his attention exclusively to his farming and stock-raising.

In 1848 Mr. Wheeler married Eleanor Campbell, born in Newark, Ohio, in 1828, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Campbell, natives of Ireland, who settled at Newark, Ohio, upon coming to America. After two years they came to Livingston County and were among the early pioneers of the county. They lived in their wagon until they had time to build a house, and endured many privations. The death of the father occurred in 1859 and that of the mother in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler had the following children: Lewis, who died when two weeks old; Mary, who married Samuel W. McKey, a prominent farmer of Long Point Township; Thomas H., a resident of Pontiac; Julia, who married Wesley Beaser, a farmer of Long Point Township; Emma, who married John Morgan, a retired farmer of Long Point; George, of Hershey, Neb.; Frank, deceased, was one of the leading young farmers of the Township; Eleanor who died when two years old, and Oscar B., Jr.

The death of Oscar B. Wheeler, Sr., was a sad blow to his family, although he left them well provided for owing to his excellent management and hard work. He gave each son and daughter eighty acres of land, and at his death still had 560 acres in the Township. He was one of those generous-hearted men who are always ready to help others, who made friends wherever he went. There was no public enterprise connected with the interests of his locality, to which he was not ready to give his aid. He was a charter member of the Masonic order of Long Point. His widow survives at the age of eighty years, living on the homestead in Long Point Township. She is able to hitch up a horse and drive to Streator to visit her sons and daughters, and enjoys doing it. She is honored by the many who have known her for many years and who appreciate her many excellent traits of character.

The private benefactions of Mr. Wheeler were widespread, for he possessed a liberal spirit, and yet was a modest man who preferred keeping his charities to himself. He was born to work and took kindly to his inheritance, making out

of it one of the greatest blessings of his life. He always believed that the foundation stone of business success was integrity, and he shaped his life accordingly, so that his record was unblemished and he left behind him a name which his descendants may well be proud to bear.

WHITE, Frederick Grant.—Few men who represent the character and purpose of Illinois have more consistently and faithfully utilized their opportunities for usefulness than Frederick Grant White, known in many avenues of activity in Livingston County, but chiefly as a general and corporation counsel of Pontiac, former County and Probate Judge, President of the Automatic Home Telephone Company, owner of almost a thousand acres of land in Illinois, politician, fraternalist, and promoter of all around stable and progressive conditions.

To the youth of the rising generation who are as yet not established in life, the career of Mr. White offers emphatic and significant encouragement. We know no man to whom that much abused term, self-made, is more applicable, for educationally and otherwise he is the product of his own industry. Born in Odell, Livingston County, July 19, 1873, he is a son of John Warren and Mary Eliza (Hinman) White, the former born in LaSalle, Ill., March 16, 1831, and the latter in New Haven, Conn., September 26, 1839. The establisher of the White family in America was an Irishman, while the progenitor of the Hinman family came from England sometime during the seventeenth century. Both John W. and Mary Eliza White attended the Farm Ridge Seminary of LaSalle County, and prior to their marriage engaged in school teaching for several years. They came to Livingston County about 1857, and until their retirement and removal to Pontiac in 1900, engaged in general farming and stock-raising on a large scale. The mother died July 22, 1906, after twenty hours of illness, and the father still makes his home in Pontiac.

At the age of eleven years Frederick G. White began herding cattle for a living, and subsequently worked on farms by the month, exercising in the meantime the greatest economy possible that he might secure a higher education. He thus was enabled to supplement his country school education with a course at Onarga Seminary and the Normal University, and he also gave out much that he had acquired while teaching school in Livingston County from his twenty-first to his twenty-third year. He has always been interested in educational work, and at the present time is President of the Pontiac Township High School. After leaving the Normal University, he came to Pontiac and studied law under Christopher C. Strawn, being admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois, December 6, 1898. Since that time he has practiced law in Pontiac, and since January 1, 1904, was in partnership with L. W. Tuesburg. The qualities which lift men to high places in law assuredly are possessed in generous measure by Mr. White, and have been generously appreciated by the

people among whom his lot is fortunately cast. Added to these requisites are general business capacity and far-sightedness, also the gift of accumulation, so that he has become one of the wealthy as well as influential professional men of the county. He is interested in the LaCrosse Land Company, of LaCrosse, Ind., which is accomplishing the redemption of 20,000 acres of swamp lands, and he is a large stock-holder in the Automatic Home Telephone Company, of which he has been President since its organization; is also a stock-holder in the Short Line Fuel Company, of Fayette County, Pa., and attorney for the same, and represents various other concerns in a legal capacity.

Politics, the natural accompaniment of law, has profoundly interested Mr. White ever since he was old enough to form political opinions. He is uncompromisingly Republican in his preferences, and his zeal and knowledge of the public needs have elevated him to many positions of trust and responsibility. He has served as Assessor, City Clerk, Deputy Circuit Clerk, the latter for twenty-two months, Public Administrator for one term, County and Probate Judge, and member of the Republican County Central Committee for four years. He is keenly appreciative of the moral and general benefits derivable from fraternal associations, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Masons, Knights of Pythias, and is one of the most prominent Modern Woodmen in Illinois. His manipulation of real-estate advantages places him among the large tax-payers and agricultural promoters of the State, and thus is immeasurably augmented the direct and fundamental usefulness of his many sided life. His reputation as a lawyer has been won by honest and earnest labor, and he belongs to that class of professional men who long have been regarded as having important bearings upon the progress and prosperity of communities, and who conserve the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights.

WILLIAMSON, Hugh, for nearly twenty-eight years a well-known and highly respected farmer of Round Grove Township, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., March 16, 1850, a son of Robert B. and Margaret (McAlevy) Williamson, natives of Pennsylvania, the father born in Jefferson County, that State, in 1820, and the mother in Huntingdon County, in 1823. The paternal grandfather, Hugh Williamson, and his wife, whose maiden name was Barr, were from the north of Wales. They came to this country and located in Pennsylvania, where they spent their closing years, grandfather Williamson dying in 1832. On the maternal side the grandparents were Allen and Letitia (Huston) McAlevy, natives of Pennsylvania, where both died. Allen McAlevy was a prominent farmer. William McAlevy, his father, was a General in the War of 1812, and the town,—McAlevy's Fort, Huntingdon County,—was named in his honor

as he was one of the first settlers in that neighborhood, while the Indians were still there, and there all the Williamson family lived. Robert B. Williamson followed farming in Pennsylvania during his whole life. He served in the Union army during the latter part of the Civil War, but saw little heavy fighting. In politics, he was a Republican, but sought no public office. He and his wife were members of the United Presbyterian church. Both died in 1897. Besides the subject of this sketch, they were the parents of four sons and five daughters, as follows: Mary, deceased; James A., a farmer in Russell County, Kan.; Letitia A., who lives in Pennsylvania; Robert R., who follows farming in Russell County, Kan.; Margaret R., who lives with her brother, Hugh; John M., who died in Dwight, Ill., when twenty-four years old; Samuel, a farmer in Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, whose home is in New Jersey; and Nancy, deceased.

Hugh Williamson, the second child in order of birth, was educated in the district schools of Pennsylvania, near McAlevy's Fort. He helped his father on the farm until 1865, and then hired out by the month, being thus employed for several years. On November 8, 1871, he located in Gardner, Grundy County, Ill., and then, for two years rented a farm from his uncle, Alexander Somerville. Following this, he again worked one year by the month as a farm hand, returning the next year to Pennsylvania, and entering there upon the marriage relation. He took a five-year lease of a farm belonging to his wife's uncle, but becoming dissatisfied, the lease was annulled, and, in the fall of 1875, he came back to Grundy County, Ill., and rented a farm, later moving to another rented farm east of Gardner, where he remained a year. At the end of that period he rented a farm in Round Grove Township, Livingston County, and in 1889, bought eighty acres of land in Dwight Township on which he still lives and which he is constantly improving. He has given much attention to raising good horses of the Percheron and French Draft breeds. In 1906, he purchased 160 acres of land in Kingsbury County, S. Dak.

The marriage of Mr. Williamson took place at McAlevy's Fort, Pa., March 7, 1875, Sarah M. Hutchinson then becoming his wife. Mrs. Williamson was born at that place May 16, 1856, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Yocum) Hutchinson, who spent their whole lives there. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson became the parents of three children, namely: Carrie Eva, who married Sidney Brownsey, a farmer. Emma J., wife of John Persnick who follows farming in Round Grove Township; and John Elmer, a farmer in Grundy County, married Anna Jones, of Gardner, Grundy County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Brownsey have four children—two sons and two daughters viz.; Gladys Gundolia, Robert Clyde, Bernice Lucile and Ralph Williamson; Mr. and Mrs. John Persnick have two children: George Arden and Robert John; and Mr. and Mrs. John Elmer Williamson have one daughter, Iola Annstine.

Politically, Mr. Williamson is a Republican, and has served the public eleven years as School Director, and twelve years as School Trustee. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America.

WILSON, Edgar S., Mayor of the city of Fairbury, Ill., was born in Taylor County, Va. (now W. Va.), October 3, 1836, the son of Abraham and Rebecca (Mouser) Wilson, his father being a farmer and blacksmith by occupation who spent his entire life in that county, engaged principally in farming and stockraising. Early members of the Wilson family on the paternal side were of Scotch blood and were followers during the fourteenth century of the noted patriot, Sir William Wallace, in the effort to maintain the independence of the Scottish nation, and some of their descendants, still adhering to the principles of their ancestors, came to America at some period previous to the Declaration of Independence and Revolutionary War, and the name of Wilson has been one of the most honored in American history. Mr. Wilson's grandfather on the maternal side, Jacob Mouser, served as a soldier in the war of 1812, from the State of Pennsylvania, holding the position of captain, while his father, Abraham Wilson, was called out at the close of the second war with Great Britain, the war closing before he was sworn in.

Edgar S. Wilson grew up on the farm in his native county of Virginia (W. Va.), where he received his early education in the common schools, later taking a course in the Grafton (Va.) Seminary. His childhood and youth were spent under the influence of a Christian home, and at the age of twenty-two years he was licensed as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he had become a member at an early period. For some twenty-four years, he remained in connection with the Virginia M. E. Conference, during three years of that period serving as pastor of the church in which he had been reared, when, in 1882, he was transferred from the West Virginia Conference to Illinois, later serving successively as pastor, for three years each, at Fairbury, Dwight and Streator, then for four years at Canton, Ill., and for one year at Aledo, when he returned to Fairbury, where he spent the next five years as pastor of the first church with which he was associated after coming to Illinois. At the end of this period, after being engaged in ministerial work for over forty years, he was superannuated, when he went with his family to California, and there spent the next six months, when he returned to Fairbury where he has since continuously resided. Besides remaining a member of the local Methodist church at Fairbury, Mr. Wilson retains his membership in the Central Illinois Conference, in which he has long been an influential factor.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican in politics and a zealous advocate of local option for the control of the liquor traffic. In the spring of 1907 he was elected Mayor of the city of Fairbury on

the anti-license ticket, and in the discharge of the duties of his office has given satisfaction to all parties, even including those who opposed him. During his residence in Fairbury he has accomplished much for the improvement of that city, having erected many new houses and improved others. He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity since 1858, now being Chaplain of Fairbury Lodge.

On March 16, 1862, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage, in Kingwood, Preston County (now W. Va.), with Sue K. Schaeffer, who was born and reared in that place, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isreal Schaeffer, and an acknowledged belle of that locality. Of this marriage there have been one son and three daughters, namely: Elvie O., who died at Canton, Ill., in 1883; Frank May, now Mrs. J. W. McDowell; Icie M., now Mrs. Harry Beers; and Anna R., living with her parents in Fairbury.

Mr. Wilson's active service of forty years in connection with church work and his later identification with business and local affairs in the city of Fairbury, give evidence of his character in Christian and public life, and attest the confidence of a large body of his fellow citizens.

WINSLOW, James C., who is widely and favorably known in Avoca Township as an industrious young farmer and progressive citizen, is pleasantly located on Section 13, where he is pursuing the peaceful occupation of farming upon his property which he has brought into a high state of cultivation. He was born on the farm he now occupies March 13, 1865, and he is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Livingston County. His parents were Thomas and Catherine (Clark) Winslow. Thomas Winslow was born in County East Meath, Ireland, February 14, 1831, and came to America in 1851, settling in New York, and becoming an engineer at Utica Insane Asylum. Later he became the engineer in a saw-mill at Williamsport, Pa., and then returned to Utica, N. Y. Charles, John and George Winslow also came to America but none emigrated to the West. Charles and John are deceased, and George is probably living. All left families.

Catherine Clark was also a native of Ireland and came from the same county as her husband. Left an orphan, she made her way to America and met Mr. Winslow in Utica, where they were married in 1855. Soon after their marriage they came to Livingston County, and he went to work by the month for \$13, while his wife also worked in a family who had come from Ireland. They thriftily saved their earnings and bought forty acres of land in Avoca Township, on which they built a small frame house in 1856. They took possession of their new home with bright hopes. The doors were made of walnut Mr. Winslow himself had cut. In that humble home, all of their children were born, and they remained in it until James C. was two years of age. At that time a Mr. Edmund Norman died. He had been building a

commodious home on the farm now occupied by James, and Mr. Winslow purchased the property, completed the residence and the family moved into it in 1867. The price paid for the original forty acres was \$500, but that amount would not purchase three acres of it at the present time. Mr. Winslow added to his farm until, at the time of his death, he owned 719 acres of fine farming land. He was one of the most generous and genial men Livingston County has ever known, and he is remembered for his many excellent traits of character and extreme kindness of heart. Hardworking himself, he never affected to overlook the distress of others, but gave liberally first and asked questions afterwards. Churches, schoolhouses, all public enterprises benefited by his liberality, and he made welcome all who came to his home. There are too few such men, and when he died in 1904 the county lost one of its best citizens. His wife had passed away in 1893, but prior to her demise they had lived retired in their beautiful home in Fairbury to which they went in 1893.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Winslow: Mary, who married V. I. Aaron, a resident of Chicago; Ann, who married George McGuire, a farmer at Five Mile Grove, Livingston County; Jane, who married Charles Hanley of Fairbury; and John and James, both of Avoca Township. They are all consistent members of the Catholic Church, as were their parents. Mr. Winslow was a staunch Democrat and filled many township offices, being a man of unblemished character and personal probity.

James C. Winslow has been reared and educated in Avoca Township and is very loyal to it. After remaining upon the homestead with his parents until his father's retirement, he then went to work by the day and month, but in 1895 rented land and started farming for himself. Three years later he took charge of the homestead, and he now owns 160 acres of it, and has one of the best farms in the Township. He has been very successful in his efforts and has the farm well stocked with cattle, horses and hogs. On June 21, 1894, he married Miss Minnie A. Wilson, born in Avoca Township, a daughter of John Wilson, an old pioneer of Livingston County, but now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Winslow have had children as follows: Mary, who died at the age of two years and seven months, when she was so bright and dear; John, who died at the age of fourteen months; Mary, who was given the name of her little sister, whose death had cast a gloom over the family; Frances, born in 1901. Mr. Winslow has inherited many of his father's wise traits and characteristics, and makes friends everywhere. He is a good farmer, a kind neighbor and public-spirited citizen. In politics he is a Democrat and is active in party matters.

WITTENAUER, John, a retired farmer of sterling character and most creditable antecedents, who through a long life of industry and thrift has amassed a snug competency and is

now enjoying a well-earned period of leisure in his comfortable home at Pontiac, Ill., was born in Baden, Germany, in 1837. His father, Antony Wittenauer, was a native of Germany, as was also his mother, whose maiden name was Schlosser. By trade, Antony Wittenauer was a stone-mason. The mother died when her son John was an infant, and the father married again, he and his second wife dying in Germany. All were members of the Catholic Church. By each of his wives Antony Wittenauer had four children, and of these eight, four are deceased. In early boyhood John Wittenauer attended school in his fatherland, and, in 1847, was brought by friends to the United States, landing in New York City, where he had an uncle who was expecting his arrival. There he also went to school, and after staying four years in New York and New Jersey, he came to Illinois, growing up to manhood in Bloomington, and remaining there about twenty-five years. In 1876 he moved to Livingston County and bought a farm of 160 acres near Graymont. There he lived until the fall of 1899, when he established his residence in Pontiac, purchasing a house on Walnut Street. This he remodeled and enlarged, and has since occupied in comfort and contentment.

On December 25, 1861, Mr. Wittenauer was united in marriage with Elizabeth Springer, who was born in McLean County, Ill., where her parents were among the earliest settlers. Four children resulted from this union, namely: Charles, who now manages his father's farm; Rose, who is married and lives near Estherville, Iowa; William, who lives in Stuttgart, Ark.; and Aaron, whose home is in Whiteside County, Ill., in the vicinity of Deer Grove. In 1906, while Mrs. Wittenauer was driving out in company with a friend, the horse, becoming frightened, ran away, and the excitement attending the affair caused her death, she being afflicted with an ailment of the heart. She was a consistent and earnest member of the Baptist Church.

In politics, Mr. Wittenauer has always been a supporter of the Republican party, and while a resident of Rooks Creek Township, held the office of School Director. He has always maintained an unblemished reputation as a farmer and as a citizen, having faithfully discharged his duties in all the relations of life. He enjoys the respect and good will of all who know him.

WOODROW, John Wilson.—The genealogy of the Woodrow family is traced to Virginian ancestry. From the Old Dominion Joseph Woodrow removed to Ohio, being led to make a change of residence by reason of his relatives having moved there previously. There had come to him by inheritance a large typical Virginian plantation, with many slaves. Believing slavery to be a national evil, he gave his slaves their freedom and settled in Ohio, in order that he might be away from the depressing effects of that system. While in Virginia he had met and married An-

toinette Wilson, a sister of Gen. James Wilson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, whose portrait hung in Memorial Hall, Philadelphia. He was presented with a sword by Gen. George Washington at the time he crossed the Delaware.

Their son, John Wilson was born December 27, 1824, after they had established their home at Hillsboro, Ohio. The father died shortly after and the boy remained with his mother until he was seven years of age, when he was taken into the home of an uncle, Charles Wilson, of Maysville, Ky., and under the care of that relative was sent to school and given the best advantages for education that the locality afforded for the young. At the age of nineteen years he went to make his home with a sister, Mrs. Campbell, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, and shortly afterward secured employment as a bookkeeper in a large iron foundry. This occupation was too confining to be healthful, and the young man soon was obliged to resign his position. In search of health he took several trips on boats, notably a voyage down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. Next he tried life in the wilderness, going to Kenosha, Wis., and living in the woods, his chief sustenance being the wild game abounding in the forests. On regaining his health he again sought business activities. Going to Morris, Ill., he secured employment in an abstract office and later entered the office of the County Clerk. During 1875 he resigned his position and removed to Webster City, Iowa, where he opened a land office, but returned the following year to Illinois.

Settling at Pontiac in 1876, Mr. Woodrow entered an abstract office and three years later opened a land office. This business he conducted until his death, which occurred December 17, 1906. In early life he had been reared among Quakers and always felt in sympathy with the doctrines of that sect, but was reared a Methodist. Politically a Democrat, he served as Justice of the Peace at Pontiac for twenty years, was twelve years Deputy County Clerk and four years County Clerk of Grundy County, Ill. Surviving him are his daughters, Ella Margaret and Ida Wilson; also his devoted and faithful wife, whom he married October 25, 1861, and who bore the maiden name of Peoria Underwood. Born in Peoria County, Ill., December 8, 1846, a daughter of Samuel F. and Margaret (Putman) Underwood. Samuel Underwood married a daughter of President John Quincy Adams, and Mrs. Underwood's father was a son by this marriage. Samuel M. and Margaret Underwood were natives respectively of Salem, Mass., and the Mohawk Valley, N. Y. The paternal grandparents, Samuel and Mary Underwood, were natives of England and he served in the war of 1812. The maternal grandparents were Fisher and Margaret (Ellis) Putman, the former having been proprietor of a harness-making and saddler's shop at Tribe's Hill, N. Y., where for more than fifty years he served as postmaster.

For some years after his marriage Samuel

F. Underwood remained in York State, where he conducted a carriage-manufacturing and mercantile business at Troy, Canandaigua and Fultonville. A fire that almost destroyed the city of Troy wiped out the profits of years of labor, and caused him to move further west with the hope of retrieving his fortunes. His first location was at Michigan City, Mich., where he secured employment as overseer on a canal. A year later he proceeded to Chicago and a brief sojourn there was followed by removal to Lockport, where he had a position on the Illinois and Michigan Canal for two years. Next he began to tow two boats (one a passenger, the other a freight) from LaSalle to St. Louis. Meanwhile, during the winter months he ran a steamer between St. Louis and New Orleans. His next venture took him to Peoria, where he built one tow boat, one freight boat and one passenger boat. At the time of his death, which occurred May 10, 1852, he enjoyed a reputation as one of the best pilots on the Illinois River. During the period of his residence at Henry, Marshall County, Ill., he has been instrumental in the upbuilding of that town and gave liberally to all enterprises of value to its permanent welfare. The Young Ladies' Seminary, one and one-half miles from town, received from him large donations in land and money, and he was also a liberal contributor to the Northern Illinois Institute at Henry. A man of fine mental powers and keen intelligence, he won friends in every circle of society and in every walk of life, and there were many mourned when the news came of his death in middle age. Some time after he died his widow became the wife of Uriah B. Couch, who was born at Saratoga, N. Y., and for years carried on a grist-mill at Morris, Grundy County, Ill., removing from that place to Benton, where his wife died at the age of fifty-two years. Later he came to Pontiac and for three years made his home with Mrs. Woodrow. Going next to Kansas, he died at Smith Center, in that State.

WOODS, James, music dealer and Alderman for the First Ward, Fairbury, Ill., though by no means an old man, has lived so long in this part of Illinois that he may well be called a pioneer, and has so many interesting reminiscences that he could, if he would, write a graphic and gripping history of the locality. He was born in Brownsville, Fayette County, Pa., December 8, 1856, and, as will be seen, was at least the second James Woods in his family. His parents were Joseph and Margaret (Smith) Woods. His father was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., December 19, 1818, his mother in Fayette County, that State, February 13, 1830. Joseph Woods was a son of James Woods, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, who emigrated to Pennsylvania at the age of twelve years, the family settling in Westmoreland County, Pa., where he married Catherine Cavin. Eventually James Woods moved to Fayette County, Pa., and there he and his wife lived out their days.

When the family left Westmoreland County,

Joseph Woods was about twelve years old. He grew to manhood in Fayette County and married there in 1853, and lived on a farm that had been for years the home of his father. In 1860 he came west to Illinois and located near Indian Grove, Livingston County. In 1862 he returned to Fayette County, Pa., selling his property and going back by rail to his old home. There he remained until 1870 when, selling out his property in Pennsylvania for the second time, he returned to Livingston County, settling near Fairbury, where he farmed until 1884. In that year he became the proprietor of the Central Hotel, the best house of entertainment in Fairbury, and some years later established the Woods House. Joseph Woods was known as a thorough going Democrat, but he cared little for public honors and inclined to a quiet home life. He had in an eminent degree the faculty of making friends and when he had once attached them to him he retained them. He came to the county when it was in a wild and uncultivated condition and honestly did his part as a pioneer. He died January 10, 1896. There were born to him eight children, four of whom were sons. One of his daughters died in infancy. His daughter Kittie, who married James Turner, now a retired farmer living at Fairbury, died April 15, 1907. Annie is the wife of Morgan McCormick of Manson, Calhoun County, Iowa, and has borne him two children, named Roy and Tholia. Boyd, now of Hartford City, Blackford County, Ind., married Alice Davis and has a son named Ross. Joseph C. is a resident of Los Angeles, Cal. Lizzie married George Kerr of Fairbury. John W. is the proprietor and manager of the Klondike Hotel at Fairbury. James is the immediate subject of this notice. The mother of these children, the widow of Joseph Woods, died April 21, 1906. She was a woman of many good qualities and, during all her active life, was a helpful member of the Baptist church.

James Woods was four years old when his parents came out the first time from Pennsylvania to Livingston County. He well remembers the long overland trip which consumed thirty days. He remembers still more vividly the return journey of the family to Pennsylvania in 1862, when he was six years old. He came back with them to Livingston County in 1870 and attended the district school in what was then known as the Fry School District. During his early years he assisted his father in farming and teaming. In 1883 he went west to Missouri, Kansas, Indian Territory and the Panhandle of Texas. He was employed for six years continuously at handling cattle on a cow ranch. In July, 1890, he returned to Fairbury, where he was in the hotel and restaurant business until 1905, when he embarked in the music trade.

Mr. Woods married Miss Luty B. Harris, October 30, 1892. Mrs. Woods was born in Fairbury, January 5, 1874, a daughter of John A. and Belle Harris, natives of Moundsville, W. Va. Her father, though of Southern birth, was at the time of the Civil War loyal to the

old flag and served four years in the Federal army, participating actively in the dangers and hardships of the battle-field and of long and arduous marches. After the war he located at Fairbury, where he lived out the rest of his allotted years, his widow surviving him. Mrs. Woods, a typical southern lady and a woman of the highest character, died May 12, 1898, deeply regretted by all who had known her, leaving two children—Bernard, born October 3, 1893, and who died August 24, 1898, and Lily Belle, born August 11, 1895.

It is not possible for Mr. Woods ever to forget the pioneer days in Livingston County. He says that when his father came first to Illinois the country round about Fairbury was literally in the Wild West. There were no roads but Indian trails, and the Indians had scarcely disappeared from forest and plain. Deer, prairie chickens and other edible game were plentiful. Wolves made the night hideous, often coming right up to the cabin door in search of food. The soil was low, level and black, and much of it was a good deal of the time under water. Everywhere there were wild geese, brants and ducks. Rattlesnakes were so numerous that every one, old or young, carried a club as a means of defense against them. Settlers threading the trails were ever on the watch for them, ever listening for their warning rattle, ever alert to escape their deadly sting. Mr. Woods so well remembers the rattle of the snakes that now he almost flinches at the mere thought of them. Hidden in the tall grass, they were visible only when they chanced to cross the trail, just ahead of the pioneer. He is fond of recounting the hardships and pleasures of the early days and marvels at the many great changes that have since taken place. He has vivid recollections of many labors and experiences of that time. The settlers depended on their guns and their fishing rods very largely for such meat as was consumed in their cabins, and young Woods often searched the prairie for prairie hens' eggs for home consumption. He often speaks of the great storm of June 27, 1861, recalling how the wind moved his father's house eighteen inches and overturned the partially finished house of George Thomas, which caught fire and was saved only with the greatest difficulty; and how the baby of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Willhour, which had been left alone in their cabin, was carried through the air about a quarter of a mile in its cradle and eventually found unhurt. Hail fell to a depth of four inches on the level. A forty acre patch of wheat was beaten into the ground. Corn replanted, July 4, yielded sixty to seventy bushels to the acre.

In his various agricultural and business enterprises, Mr. Woods has been successful. He has been identified with the interests of Livingston County for nearly forty years. He is a member of the order of Yeomen, of the Eagles and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a Democrat.

WOODS, John W., proprietor of Hotel Klondike, Fairbury, Ill., and formerly a member of the board of alderman of that city. Though restricted as to environments and at a disadvantage because of the inferior voting strength of his party in his town, the young man whose name heads this sketch has demonstrated qualities for leadership that are noteworthy, and it is greatly to his credit that every fight that he has made—and he has made several strenuous ones—has been made, not for his personal advancement, but for the benefit of Fairbury and its citizens. His honesty of purpose is beyond question and his personal and social qualities are of the winning kind. Enthusiastic in maintaining the righteousness of any position that he takes, he is strong and ready in argument and has the gift of extemporaneous speaking—a gift that he has frequently used in behalf of interests important in his community.

John W. Woods was born December 19, 1875, a son of Joseph Woods and his wife, who was Margaret Smith. Joseph Woods, a native of Westmoreland County, Pa., was born in December 19, 1818, and Margaret (Smith) Woods was born in Fayette County, Pa., February 13, 1830. Considerable early history of the family of Woods is given in a biographical sketch of James Woods, which has a place in an adjoining portion of this volume. Joseph Woods died January 10, 1896, his wife April 21, 1906. They had four sons and four daughters. Annie is Mrs. Morgan McCormick, of Manson, Calhoun County, Iowa. Boyd married Alice Davis and lives at Hartford City, Ind. Joseph C. lives at Los Angeles, Cal. Kittie, who was Mrs. James Turner of Fairbury, died April 15, 1907. Another daughter died in infancy. Lizzie is Mrs. George Kerr of Fairbury. James is a music dealer at Fairbury. John W. is the immediate subject of this sketch.

John W. Woods, who may be said to have made a life business of hotel and restaurant management, first saw the light of day in the Central Hotel at Fairbury, while it was under his father's management. When he was four years old, his family removed to a farm in the vicinity of the old Fry School, near Indian Grove. There he attended school and helped about the work of the farm by turns. In 1889 he accepted a position in the hotel at Fairbury. In 1890 he entered the public school at Fairbury, from which he was graduated with the class of 1896, under Professor Richardson, in his last year doing the eleventh and twelfth grade work in one year. July 27, 1897, he formed a partnership with James Turner in the restaurant business, which he has successfully conducted for three years and three months, when he sold his interest, the concern passing to the ownership of Brown & Kring. January 26, 1901, he entered the restaurant business independently, opening a fine establishment on West Locust Street, which he conducted successfully until May 14, 1907, then selling it. September 17, following, he bought the Klondike Building at Fourth and Locust Streets, in which

he has since conducted the leading hotel and restaurant in the city.

In 1904 the License party in Fairbury, looking for a candidate to lead it to victory in an aldermanic contest from the Third Ward, chose Mr. Woods as its leader. Although the ward was a close ward, he was elected by a flattering majority and, for two years, waged a hard fight for what he considered the rights and interests of the people. At the expiration of his term he declined a reelection. In 1906 he was the nominee of the Democratic party for the office of Sheriff of Livingston County, against a man put forth by the Republicans who had for four years satisfactorily filled the office of Chief Deputy Sheriff. Though failing of election, Mr. Woods cut the majority of his opponent very appreciably. Had it been possible to elect any Democrat to the office he would undoubtedly have been elected by a flattering majority. The general public have come to rely on him as a man of invincible integrity, and it is probable that, sometime, when party lines are not so closely drawn as they were in the year mentioned, he will be called to some position of honor and responsibility. He is eminently friendly and sympathetic, and it is doubtful if he could turn away any man in need. There is probably not a voter in the county who would refuse to support him on purely personal grounds. It will not be soon forgotten how, as the youngest Alderman ever elected in Central Illinois, he fought so gallantly for his idea of honesty and justice. He is an Odd Fellow, a Mason and a member of the order of Eagles.

WORTH, William A., well known as the efficient manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Ocoya, Livingston County, Ill., was born in Esmen Township, in the same county, on March 27, 1870, a son of John E. and Julia T. (Chapin) Worth, the former a native of England, and the latter, of Long Island, N. Y. The father was born in 1847, and, in 1855, was brought to the United States by his parents who proceeded directly to Illinois, settling in Livingston County. Julia T. Chapin also accompanied her father and mother to the same locality at an early period. John E. Worth followed farming in Esmen Township, where he formerly owned 200 acres of land. This he sold, moving to Oklahoma, and there owns 240 acres, besides property in Oklahoma City, which has been his place of residence since he withdrew from active pursuits. William A. Worth was reared on the home farm, and in boyhood utilized the advantages of the common schools. In 1894 he became manager of the Middle Division Elevator Company, at Cayuga, Ill., and in 1901 went to Oklahoma, where he was engaged for two years in farming and merchandising. In 1903 he went into the lumber business at Odell, and in the following year located in Ocoya, assuming the management of the Farmers' Elevator, in which position he has displayed notable capability and diligence.

On February 21, 1894, Mr. Worth was married to Etta L. Streeter, daughter of William B.

Streeter, of Esmen Township, Livingston County. Two children have blessed this union—Alonzo William and Lloyd H.

In political action, Mr. Worth is a Republican. He and Mrs. Worth are members of the Baptist church. Both have many friends, and are highly esteemed. Mr. Worth is a member of Pontiac Lodge No. 26, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Yeoman Lodge of Odell, Ill.

WORTHLEY, Daniel, a veteran of the Civil War, and for twenty-seven years a diligent and thrifty farmer in the vicinity of Odell, Livingston County, Ill., but now living in comfortable retirement in Pontiac, same county, was born in Clinton County, N. Y., July 9, 1840 a son of Samuel and Lydia (Craig) Worthley natives of New Hampshire. The paternal grandparents were Daniel and Irene Worthley, both born in the Green Mountain State whose home was afterwards in New York, where their last years were spent. Irene Worthley lived to be nearly 101 years old.

Robert and Sally (Mitchell) Craig, grandparents on the maternal side, were married in Bridgewater, N. H., whence they moved to Clinton County, N. Y., both dying there. Grandfather Craig was a farmer by occupation. Samuel Worthley, the father of Daniel, also followed farming for a livelihood. His marriage with Lydia Craig took place in New York State, and there he died March 3, 1847. His widow married a second time, and moved to Odell, Ill., where she departed this life October 10, 1895. They were the parents of four children, of whom two are still living.

Daniel Worthley received his education in the common schools and the Plattsburg (N. Y.) Academy. He was reared on his father's place, and, after reaching maturity, bought a small farm in New York, on which he lived several years. In 1864 he moved to Livingston County Ill., purchasing a farm of eighty acres near Odell. This he sold in 1900, and became a resident of Pontiac, building a house at No. 515 North Oak Street, where he has since lived in contented retirement, enjoying the well-earned fruits of his long and arduous toil. On September 23, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, 44th Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, a short time afterwards being discharged on account of disability. Coming to Illinois he was drafted September 28, 1864, being assigned to Company H, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, organized in LaSalle County. With this regiment he was mustered out by general order after ten months service. He was present at the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely.

On May 5, 1862, Mr. Worthley was married to Anna D. Thorne, who was borne in Clinton County, N. Y., a daughter of Henry and Nancy (Dustin) Thorne, natives of that State and county. This union resulted in two children, namely: Minnie Gertrude, wife of Charles H. Hoke, Ex-Sheriff of Livingston County, and Jennie Dora, deceased.

In politics, Mr. Worthley is a Prohibitionist, and on the ticket of that party, was elected Alderman of the Second Ward, serving two years. He and his worthy wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. Both are held in high esteem wherever known. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

WORTHLEY, Wallace F., a very intelligent and enterprising representative of the younger element among the farmers of Livingston County, Ill., was born in Odell Township, that county, January 6, 1874, a son of Robert and Waity (Reynolds) Worthley, both natives of Plattsburg, N. Y., where his father was born in 1837, and his mother, in 1839. In New York State, Robert Worthley followed farming, and also worked in a saw mill. He was married at the time of the Civil War, and shortly afterwards came to Livingston County, Ill., buying eighty acres of land in Odell Township. To this he afterwards added another 80-acre tract, and he and his wife are still living on the place. They had five children, three of whom were boys. Politically, Robert Worthley is a strong Republican, and has served as a member of the Board of School Directors, being clerk of that body. He and his excellent wife are members of the Methodist Church. Wallace F. Worthley, the fourth-born of the family, received his education in the Odell public schools and the Pontiac Township High School and, after finishing his studies, taught school for several terms, assisting his father in the farm work during the summer season. In 1895 he began farming on land rented from the latter, continuing this until 1900. Then he bought 120 acres in North Odell Township, with the intention of conducting a stock farm. On this property he has built a substantial and convenient house and a good barn. All the buildings on the place are new, being the result of his industry and enterprise. A special feature in his farming operations is the breeding of Belgian horses, to which he devotes considerable attention. Aside from agricultural undertakings, he finds time to act in the capacity of secretary of the West Side Odell Mutual Telephone Company.

On December 25, 1895, in Odell, Ill., Mr. Worthley was united in marriage with Nettie Tombaugh, a daughter of Matthias and Elvira Tombaugh, born in Odell Township, Livingston County, January 2, 1875. Her father, who is deceased, was the owner of 500 acres of land in Odell Township. He was a prominent citizen, and served for several years as County Superintendent of Public Instruction. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace F. Worthley are the parents of two children: Lawrence, born February 25, 1897; and Alice, born January 26, 1901.

Politically, Mr. Worthley is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, and is serving as a member of the Odell School Board. In fraternal circles, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M., and the Court of Honor. His religious connection is with the Methodist Church, in which he has officiated as Superintendent of the

Sunday School, and has held the position of President of the Epworth League. Throughout this township, Wallace F. Worthley is recognized as a successful farmer and a useful member of the community.

WRIGHT, Fred, general business man, Fairbury, Livingston County, Ill. Probably there is no name more widely known among Masons of Central Illinois than that of Mr. Wright. It is certain that no man in Fairbury has more warm personal friends, or is more unselfishly devoted to the growth and prosperity of that little city. None is better or more favorably known in business circles, and none has more ably earned the title of man of affairs. He has proven himself equally competent and successful in various lines, and would win popular support for any enterprise in which he might engage.

Fred Wright was born in Fairbury, December 21, 1864, a son of James L. and Annie (Webb) Wright. His father was born in Indiana and, when a child, was taken to Troy, Ohio. He was a son of John Wright, who was of Pennsylvania-German blood and married an English woman. James L. Wright married in Ohio about 1860 and came to Fairbury, where he worked at his trade as a carpenter during the summer months and taught district schools in the winter. He was an excellent mechanic and an able and popular teacher, his services always being in demand in one capacity or the other. In 1902 he returned to Troy, Ohio, where he lived in retirement from active business until his death in April, 1908. To James L. and Annie (Webb) Wright a son and a daughter were born. The latter, whose Christian name is Effie F., is the wife of A. L. Hayes, an insurance and loan agent, in Chicago, and has two children, Mazie and Oma. Mazie is Mrs. Clarence Cardy. Mrs. Wright early became a member of the Methodist church, with which she is still identified.

Educated in the Fairbury public schools and at the Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill., Fred Wright began his active life as a clerk in a restaurant in Fairbury. In 1883, when he was nineteen years old, he bought a bakery which he managed successfully about a year. This he sold in 1884 and established a billiard hall and tobacco store with new fixtures and a complete stock, which he conducted profitably twelve years. In 1896, as a member of the firm of Wright & Waybreit, he opened a general store at Campus. In 1899 he disposed of his interest in this concern and, returning to Fairbury, bought back the billiard hall which he had established and which he has operated to the present time. Always interested in the growth and development of Fairbury, he has steadily contributed to its advancement. He has no ambition for public office, but has served his fellow-townsmen as a member of the Board of Review. He is especially well informed concerning current events throughout the country, and has an alert apprehension of their political significance. He views all political issues from the standpoint of a

Republican. Reference has already been made to his high standing as a Mason, and he is also an Odd Fellow. While not holding membership in any church, Mr. and Mrs. Wright have been liberally helpful to churches wherever they have lived. Mrs. Wright is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Wright married Miss Marie Hankins, October 12, 1891. She was born at Chatsworth, Ill., March 3, 1866, a daughter of Henry Hankins. Her mother dying when she was a child, she found a home with Mrs. Frank Franzen, the wife of her mother's brother. Her father died in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have two children—Avis E., born December 16, 1894, and James Fred, born December 1, 1903.

WRIGHT, Vinton Spencer.—For more than twenty years Vinton S. Wright has been identified with the growth and development of one of Dwight's important industries. When he came to this city with his young wife in 1884, he was favorably impressed by the opportunities afforded to energy and perseverance, and since then has had no reason to regret the decision which made him a permanent resident of this progressive place. During the autumn of 1885 he assisted his mother's brother, Julius A. Spencer, in establishing a hay-press factory for the manufacture of an invention which the uncle had patented. From that period the business experienced a steady growth, and now, under the management of Mr. Wright, and under the firm title of the J. A. Spencer Hay-Press Manufacturing Company, it ranks among the leading concerns of its kind in Illinois. Improved devices have been adopted from time to time, so that the press now represents the highest degree of efficiency and speed possible in the work for which it was constructed. Besides the press, the firm manufactures a steel-plate ventilating fan, also carries on the lines of work common to machine-shop, foundry and planing-mill.

The Wright family comes of Eastern lineage. Vinton Spencer Wright was born at Fulton, Oswego County, N. Y., January 29, 1862, being a grandson of Luther G. and Mary P. (Platt) Wright, and a great-grandson of Daniel Wright and John Blittenburg. The home of Luther G. Wright was in Oneida County, N. Y., and among his children was Daniel E., who followed the trade of a carpenter and builder in New York State, Pennsylvania, Canada and Florida, eventually, about 1895, becoming a resident of Dwight, Ill., which continues to be his home. During early manhood he married Sarah A., daughter of Milton Spencer, of Herkimer County, N. Y. Four daughters and three sons came to bless their union, one of the daughters dying at the age of two years. Fourth in the order of birth of these children was Vinton Spencer Wright, who attended the common schools and seminary of his native town, and after leaving school learned the carpenter's trade under his father. Three years later he entered the foundry and machine-shop of E. W. Ross, at Fulton, where

he served an apprenticeship to the machinists' trade.

The marriage of Mr. Wright was solemnized December 6, 1883, uniting him with Rosamond Alice Safford, who was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., December 6, 1863, a daughter of Henry Johnson and Mary (Saxton) Safford, natives of Connecticut. Julius Milton Wright, their eldest son, born June 3, 1885, was for three years a student in the University of Illinois. The eldest daughter, Clara Rosamond, was born May 25, 1887. The second daughter, Mary Eleanor, born January 11, 1889, has received excellent advantages in the University of Illinois. The other children are as follows: Vinton Safford, born May 18, 1891; Allen Gates, born August 29, 1893; and Louisa Althea, born June 18, 1899.

In addition to his long identification with the hay-press industry, Mr. Wright has had other business interests. For three years he owned one-half interest in a jewelry store, but at the expiration of that period he sold his interest to his partner, W. D. Roeder. During March of 1892 he opened the Dwight Artesian laundry, and in the following New Year admitted into partnership B. M. Chubb, who has continued with him in the business up to the present time. Realizing the necessity for adequate fire protection for the city, Mr. Wright aided in organizing and equipping a Volunteer Fire Department, and for two years served as its Chief. The part which he took in building up a fire company will not soon be forgotten. The work was as laborious as it was unremunerative, but devotion to the welfare of the city conquered personal feeling, and it was his gratification to see eventually a well-equipped department established and sustained. The school work, too, received his encouraging and sympathetic assistance, and for six years he was a member of the Board of Education. Politically, he always has given his support to Republican principles. Early in life, he identified himself with the Congregational denomination, and since then has been a local leader in that church, acting at various times as Sunday-school teacher, secretary, superintendent and treasurer, also as a member of the board of trustees of the congregation. The lofty principles of brotherhood and philanthropy, as enunciated by Masonry, have appealed to him and have led him into the activities of the order, in which we find him associated with the Blue Lodge and Eastern Star at Dwight, the Chapter at Wilmington, Chicago Council No. 4, Blaney Commandery No. 5, K. T., at Morris, the Chicago Consistory and the Medinah Temple, N. M. S., of Chicago.

WUBBENS, Peter, a retired farmer residing in the village of Flanagan, Ill., who in the course of thirty-five years of patient and persevering toil, has gathered together a goodly store of this world's possessions, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors in quiet contentment surrounded by all the comforts resulting from a life usefully and profitably spent, was born in

Prussia, Germany, on September 28, 1836, a son of Bernard and Hilka (Goldhorn) Wubbens, natives of the same country, where the birth of the father took place in 1805, and that of the mother in 1808. Bernard Wubbens, a carpenter by trade, came after the death of his wife to the United States in 1880, making his home in Livingston County, Ill., where he spent his last days. Peter Wubbens attended the public schools of the fatherland in early youth, and followed the occupation of a laborer while he remained there. On coming to this country, he first located in Freeport, Stephenson County, Ill., arriving there in 1865 and continuing until 1871. In the last mentioned year he moved to Livingston County, and bought forty acres of land in Nebraska Township, gradually adding to his landed property until he became the owner of 240 acres. In this locality he was successfully engaged in general farming and raising stock, up to the period of his withdrawal from agricultural pursuits, in 1906, when he built a fine residence in Flanagan, which he has since occupied.

On March 1, 1872, Mr. Wubbens was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Margaret Eilts, a daughter of Edward and Katharina (Manson) Eilts. From this union have sprung seven children, those living as follows: Anna W. (Mrs. George Kalkwarf); Edward, married Ida Bowman; Hilda, wife of Ralph Hinkel; John, married Mary Koopman, and Margaret. Burt and Katy are deceased. Katharine Heinrichs is a granddaughter and resides with Mr. Wubbens.

Politically, Mr. Wubbens has always taken his stand on the side of the Republican party, and in religious belief, he and his family are Lutherans. All who know them are their friends, and entertain towards them feelings of cordial good will.

YOUNG, Francis L., for many years a successful farmer in Rooks Creek Township, Livingston County, Ill., and a reliable and useful member of the community, was born in Preble County, Ohio, December 20, 1845, a son of Herman and Sarah (Clingenpeel) Young, natives of Virginia, who moved to that county at an early period, removing thence in 1849 to Peoria County, Ill., and locating in Pontiac Township, Livingston County, in 1852. Herman Young settled on 320 acres of land which he had purchased, buying considerably more which he gave to his children. All of his property was accumulated by his own arduous toil and wise management. Politically, he was an adherent of the Democratic party, and in religious belief he and his wife were Universalists. They had seven sons, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only one living. The father died in Pontiac Township in 1872, and the mother passed away at the home of her son, Francis, in Rooks Creek Township, in 1876.

Francis L. Young was reared on the home farm, and received his education in the common schools. He is still the owner of 153 acres of

land in the last named Township, having distributed a portion of his landed possessions among his children. On the home place he is engaged in general farming and raising stock, and all his undertakings have been attended by good results.

On November 18, 1866, Mr. Young was married to Emma Rittenhouse, born in Warren, Huntington County, Ind., a daughter of William and Martha Jane (Gill) Rittenhouse, early settlers of that County, who came to Warren County from Virginia, the founders of the family in America being natives of Germany. Both William and Martha Rittenhouse died on the home place in Warren County. Mr. and Mrs. Young have had children as follows: Hiram, who married Sarah Wertz of Livingston County—they reside in Rantoul, Kan., and have two daughters; Sarah, is a professional nurse at present at Plano, Ill.; William J., married Dolly Lauderbach of St. Louis, Mo., and they reside in Rushville, Adrian County, Mo.; Nora Belle, married William Brinkman, and they reside in Pike Township, Livingston County, and have one daughter; Harvey, married Ella Uphoff of Woodford County, Ill.; Harry, married Myrtle Miller of Pontiac, and they reside in that city, having one son, Mabel Pearl, married Edward Kippfer, and they reside south of Pontiac; Marion Francis, married Ella Scott of Pontiac, they reside in Graymont, Ill.; and Ella Loraine, deceased.

In politics, Mr. Young acts with the Democratic party, entertaining, however, no desire for public office. His religious views are of a liberal character. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In the fall of 1908 he bought a residence in Graymont, Ill., where he is now living retired.

ZINN, Julian W., M. D., a well known and successful physician of Flanagan, Ill., where he has a fine practice and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the community, was born in Kentucky, July 30, 1862, a son of Newton J. and Elizabeth (Dunlap) Zinn, natives of that State, where they always lived, dying in Grant County. Joseph Zinn, the paternal grandfather, was a soldier in the War of 1812.

Julian W. Zinn was reared on a farm, and received his education mainly in the Williams (Ky.) High School, afterward reading medicine with his uncle, Dr. W. J. Zinn, at Sherman, Ky., and also attending school at Louisville, Ky., then entering the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1888. He located in Bloomington, Ill.,

in 1888, and began the practice of his profession, removing in a few months to Graymont, Ill., where he remained thirteen years, and going thence to Joliet, whence he removed to Flanagan, August 12, 1902. Dr. Zinn is a specialist in lung diseases, and has acquired a large practice. He was connected with the examining staff of the United States Pension Commissioner, under the second Cleveland administration, and that of President McKinley.

Dr. Zinn was married April 10, 1890, to Anna R. Jordan, a native of Will County, Ill., and a daughter of Truman W. and Mattie (Dewey) Jordan. Two children are the offspring of this union, namely: Donald F. and Doris E. In the matter of politics, Dr. Zinn maintains an independent attitude, and in regard to religion entertains liberal views. Fraternally, he is affiliated with Pontiac Lodge No. 294, A. F. & A. M., and Streator Lodge, No. 591, B. P. O. E.

ZOLLINGER, William W., who is now serving his first term as Supervisor of Sullivan Township, Livingston County, Ill., and is recognized as one of the leading farmers and citizens of his township, was born in Strasburg, Pa., June 30, 1853, a son of George K. and Mary J. (Brittan) Zollinger, natives of Pennsylvania, where the paternal grandparents, Frederick and Margaret (Shay) Zollinger, were also born, the grandfather on the maternal side, William Brittan, being a native of Ireland. William Zollinger received his education in the Strasburg (Pa.) High School, and moved to Illinois in 1875, locating in Livingston County and working as farm hand for six years. In 1880 he changed his location to Ford County, Ill., where he followed farming thirteen years. Then returning at the end of this period to Livingston County, he purchased his present farm of 200 acres, where his operations have been very successful.

Mr. Zollinger was married February 27, 1880, to Mary Martin, born in Princeton, Bureau County, Ill., where her education was obtained in the public schools. Two sons are the offspring of this union, George W. and Lee W., respectively aged twenty-six and twenty-four years.

Politically, Mr. Zollinger is a Republican, and is now serving his first term as Supervisor. In fraternal circles he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Cullom Lodge, No. 666. His religious connection is with the Methodist church.

SUPPLEMENT

CODLIN, Robert J., former Alderman of the city of Fairbury, Ill., was born in Chenoa, McLean County, Ill., September 8, 1868, the son of

Joseph and Mary (McTaggart) Codlin, and was reared on his father's farm. After working upon the farm until about seventeen years of age,

meanwhile attending the public schools of his native place, he engaged in the express business for about three years, after which he was employed for the same length of time as clerk in the grocery store of E. J. Davis & Co., at Chenoa, when he entered into the livery business at Fairbury, Livingston County, with which he has since been connected continuously to the present time.

In 1903 Mr. Codlin was elected Constable for Indian Grove Township, in which he is now serving his second term; has also served two terms as Deputy Sheriff of Livingston County, and in the spring of 1897, was chosen Alderman of the city of Fairbury on the Business Men's ticket. A Republican in politics, he has always adhered faithfully to the principles of that party, and has labored to advance its interests in con-

nection with public affairs. In 1901 he was appointed by President McKinley to the position of Rural Free Delivery Mail Carrier for the Fairbury District, and has served in that capacity for the past seven years.

On June 25, 1896, Mr. Codlin was united in marriage, at Fairbury, Ill., with Lillian Wilson, of Piper City, Ill., and they have had the following named children born to them: Wilmer J., Dorothy R., Howard and Joseph Lee.

Mr. Codlin is identified with the following fraternal organizations in Fairbury: Fairbury Lodge No. 290, Independent order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, American Court of Honor, No. 206; and Yeomen of America. In his business and official life he has established a substantial reputation for success, and has won respect as a self-made man.